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CHRISTMAS BELLS.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY E. NORMAN GUNNISON.

The Christmas-bells ring loud and clear
Above the hills and valleys,
And bring their tidings of good cheer
To narrow minds and alleys.
Ring, happy bells! Your voices sweet
With every voices mingle,
And swing again the olden strain
With laughter of Kris Kringle.

To happy hearts your strokes beat time,
And happy roof and rafter
Shall echo back your joyous chime
With music, mirth and laughter.
The Christ is born—is born again!
Angels take up the chorus;
And back from Bethlehem's starry plain
The anthem rises o'er us.

With "Peace on earth, good-will to men,"
The dome of heaven is ringing;
The weary centuries again
Take up the voice of singing.
It echoes down the coming time,
It rings through earth's vast arches,
"Peace, peace on earth!" the ceaseless chime
Adown the future marches.

The world's millennial is near,
And with the New Year dawning
A nation's heart shall welcome here
Its grand Centennial morning.
The Christ has come! O Christmas-bells!
Ring louder still and clearer!
For, as your echoing music swells,
The voice of Peace grows dearer.

We hear along the bygone years,
Above Time's moaning surges,
The voice of war, a voice of tears—
Our Christmas-chimes were dirges.
And now, thank God! no echo comes;
Above our peaceful banners
The sound of marching men and drums
Is smothered in hozannas.

"Hozanna in the highest!" still
Above the land is sweeping,
Where late, on wooded plain and hill,
Was heard the voice of weeping;
We hear no tramp of marching feet—
Instead, a peaceful crooning;
Our cannon into ploughshares beat,
Our swords to hooks for pruning.

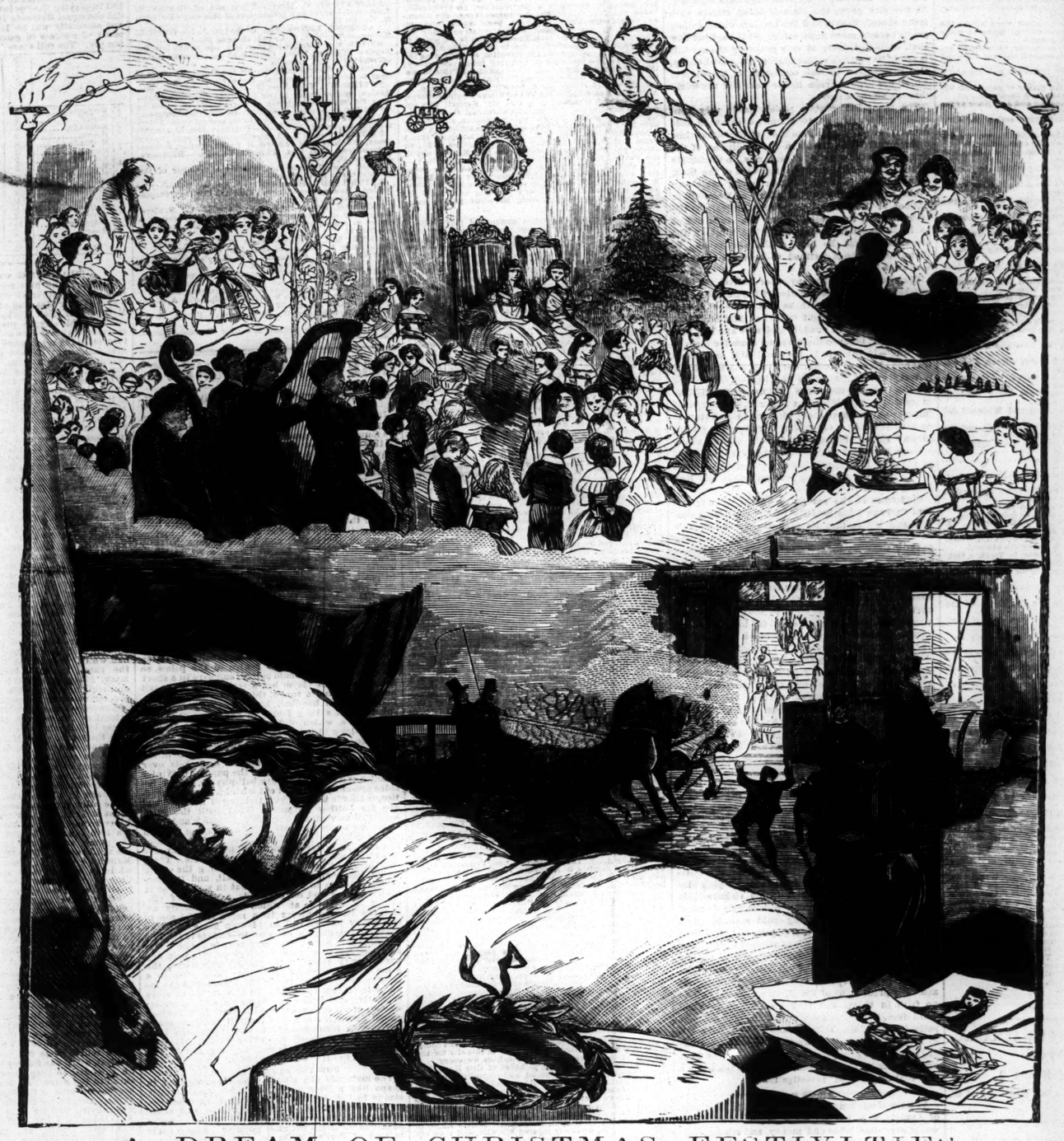
And therefore, at this Christmas-time,
This time of our thanksriving,
Ring out! ring out! a loving chime;
Good-will toward all the living.
For Europe stretches forth her hand,
The broad Atlantic under,
To fix between our hearts a band
Nor time nor space can sunder.

She comes on our Centennial day
To join in our rejoicing,
The hate of years will melt away
Beneath that happy voicing.
The thrones of Europe, grown effete,
Will feel around, above us,
The pulse which beats with freedom's beat,
And learn to trust and love us.

The happy days Christ's coming told—
With better men and truer—
Rounds in this century of gold,
Peace-crowned, and brighter, newer.
The Christmas-bells above our folds
Their kindly watch are keeping,
Each heart within its cradle holds
The Babe of Bethlehem sleeping.

And therefore, bells, O Christmas-bells!
In waves harmonious breaking,
Peal out "good will"—your music tells—
Nor fear the Christ-child's waking;
For as the magi by His bed
With gifts for his possessing,
Waited, the century waits instead
To feel the Christ-child's blessing.

The lamb and lion in this land
Lie down—one God shall feed them;
And, reaching forth his nail-pierced hand,
"A Little Child shall lead them."
The world's millennial day is here—
It comes this Christmas-morning;
It heralds the Centennial year—
Peace nestles in its dawning.
Once more o'er Bethlehem's starry plain
Angels their way are winging;
Behold! The Christ is born again!
The world takes up the singing.
Beneath the branches of the tree
Earth's happy people mingle,
And manly voice and childish glee
Welcome anew Kris Kringle.



A DREAM OF CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

She dreams! Through all her hush of night
A breeze of joy floats wild and warm;
No shadow dims the halo light
That rays her sleeping form.
Where, robed in spotless youth, she lies,
A saint, whose soul is in the skies!

For is not earth here turned to heaven?
Her childhood's heaven—a dream of bliss,
A rapture scarce to mortals given,
A joy the sages miss,
O'er whose dim night shall rise no more
The spells that fly when hearts grow hoar.

No train of state encumbereth her,
Nor golden crown her golden hair;
No regal cares her bosom stir;
She mounts no marble stair.
Yet, tranced, she walks a land of light—
In thought she is a queen to-night.

Bright fairy forms, through visions glancing,
Have ringed her in a magic round;
The strains to which her feet are dancing
On earth shall never sound;
But oh! such dreams are nearer truth
Than our sad world—that weeps its youth.

Life's skies for her have lost the cloud:
Not yet—not yet the tempests roll;
Nor blinding tears have learned to shroud
The visions of the soul.
Where thrills through each God-given sense
The spirit-joy of Innocence!

Oh, not unhallowed is the theme
Through which her girlish fancies glide!
Thou pour'st in one delicious stream,
Old Yule! thy sacred tide;—
The thought, the hope, the chastened glee,
O Dawn of Love, speak all of Thee!

By those pure lips, so silent now,
All solemnly the prayer was said;
And by each living pulse we know
Who watcheth by the bed!
A guardian care is his, and deep,
"Who giveth his beloved sleep."

"Our Father," God, who knoweth best,
Who gives soft night the closing flower,
Who gives, in shadow and in rest,
Dreams meet for childhood's hour.
Shall he not give to Christ's dear care
The child that sleepeth after prayer?

STELLA NEWTON;

OR,

LOVE'S CHRISTMAS.

BY THE AUTHOR OF
"CHRISTMAS BEFORE AND BEHIND THE CURTAIN," ETC.

At Christmas play and make good cheer,
For Christmas comes but once a year.—TUSSER.

Christmas-day! What a host of memories, what varied emotions, these words call up. This day of all others is kept in all the four quarters of the globe. Christendom, though so fearfully divided, is one that day, and unites in the millions of happy, careless hearts.

All the guests were assembled at the Vale. There were the Cummings, the poor relations, the tottering old gentleman whom Mrs. Newton most disliked and snubbed. The Vale was hospitable to its connexions, and they were here gathered round the Christmas-fire in the drawing-room waiting for the Christmas-dinner.

Outside, on the drive, were many confused foot-marks, impressions of the feet of humble and enthusiastic retainers, who had come up early in the morning to sing a Christmas-carol. They did it in kind-hearted Daniel Newton's time, they did it now in his widow's; but not for any love of her—oh, no, their grateful voices were all for beautiful Miss Stella, and their eyes, one and all, were directed to her window.

Bless her kind heart. The poor knew her in their distress and helplessness, and the children by the way-side loved her smile and sprang within its magic circle.

Stella was there, standing amidst her distant cousins, and shining like a star amidst the worshipping little group. Stella was always the beauty of the family. Her gentle nature and kind, sensitive heart had made her what is far better, the goddess, the best loved.

"How cold it is!" croaked the old gentleman from the corner. "I think the Christmas gets colder every year. It usen't to be so very biting as it is to-day, I'm sure."

Cousin Stella laid her little white hand sympathetically upon his shoulder, and the old man looked up with a grateful smile.

"Colder? Nonsense!" replied Mrs. Newton shrewishly, and before anyone else could make answer. "You forget your blood has grown thinner, and your limbs older since you were a boy."

"Perhaps so, Martha," sighed the old man.

"Besides, the idea of being cold with such a fire as this! It's ridiculous."

An uncomfortable silence fell upon the little group, which Stella broke by poking the magnificent fire vigorously.

"Well, mamma, it is not such a very fine one, after all," she said with a gentle laugh. "We will have a Christmas-log, shall we, cousin?" and as the old man looked up and chuckled in gratitude for her attempt at a diversion, she rang the bell for a log, and with her own fair hands and eyes superintended its elevation to the top of the burning coals.

Then rose the splinters and sparks. Mrs. Newton stalked off to spend half an hour in icily badgering the footman and butler, and the cousins fell to talking and laughing as if a ghost or a damp blanket had stalked off or been removed from their shoulders—all but Stella. She sat beside the old man, her hand in his, and gazed at the fire.

It was cold, very cold; and if it was cold with such a magnificent fire as that, what must it have been in a room without one, in a room, say, without curtains to keep away the draught, and merry voices to drive away low spirits? Many a poor creature was in this plight; but Stella, for once, was not thinking of the poor in general, but of one luckless individual whom she could picture to herself as sitting not a mile from where she sat, shivering in the dusty, draughty, time-eaten dining-room of Heavithorne.

Now, Stella was not a reserved, secretive girl; she was open as a rose in June, and all her secrets might have been laid bare before an inquisition of the innocent. But, for the first time in her life—perhaps the second, remembering the statue—had she kept her own counsel. Moved by an indescribably shy reluctance, strangely new to her, she had told no one of her meeting with the owner of the Hut, and, as that part of the park was little frequented, no one had discovered his advent.

The trees round the old house were thick and high, so that if a fire had been lighted it could not have been seen from the road or the village, and Stella, without any further ground for her belief, felt assured that the handsome and somewhat mysterious Louis Felton was seated on one of the old, rickety, high-backed chairs, shivering before an empty hearth and a prey to low spirits.

That being her belief, she was not at all inclined to gayety, and sat absent-minded, listening, and yet not listening, to the prattle of the well-meaning cousins, and tracing in the mass of glowing coals the delicate features of that same young gentleman. She asked herself if she should communicate her information to her mamma, who would possibly instruct a basket of hares to be sent upon Mr. Felton and ask him to transfer himself to the Vale.

She half rose to do so, but the feeling of reluctance, and the doubt whether the poor master of ruined Heavithorne would be a welcome guest at the Vale, kept her undecided and seated. Presently, with a great burst of laughter, the cousins rose to dress.

"Aren't you coming, Stella?" they asked.

"Doo tum!" implored a little maiden, clinging to her dress and looking up into her sweet face beseechingly. "Doo tum, Tousin Tella, and let me tum and dess in your room."

So she was, snatching the little one up with a kiss, and, dispelling her gloom by a great effort, ran off as merrily as the rest. Dinner arrived. There was a huge fire in the grandly decorated dining-room, with a log on the top for the gratification of the elderly cousin. There were innumerable courses, entrees, and side dishes, and, glory of the feast! there was the pudding.

Under its genial influence even Mrs. Newton melted into something like pleasantness, and the laughter was ringing round the room—the shrill falsetto of the old man's sounding cracked and piercing above the rest—when John Thomas and Mr. Proudley the butler arrived with the port wine and the dessert.

Then what toasts the old man proposed, with what warmth they wished everybody a long life and a happy one, how they kindled into something like enthusiasm over their frigid and not at all lovable aunt; and when the merry girls had feasted sufficiently, how they trooped back into the drawing-room to laugh their digestions into perfection, and to leave the old gentleman snugly tucked up on the sofa, covered with his red pocket-handkerchief and all the available antimacassars.

Mrs. Newton retired to her own room for a nap, with something more substantial than flimsy crotchet as a covering, and the cousins seated themselves round the fire, some with their arms encircling another's waist, some crouching comfortably within roasting distance upon the hearth-rug, and the least of them all curled like a kitten in Stella's lap.

They talked as light-hearted girls only can talk, until general gossip and mirth-provoking reminiscences were exhausted. Then followed a pause.

"Stella, dear, tell us a story," said one, a school-girl, who possessed an insatiable appetite for stories of every kind, but love romances in particular.

Stella started, and stroked the little one's hair with a laugh.

"Tell you a story—I don't think ——"

"Oh, yes, tell us a 'tory, Tousin 'Tella," prattled the mite.

And Stella, after staring at the coals with a half smile for inspiration, commenced:

"There was once ——"

"Is this a love story or a ghost, because if it's a good ghost one I shall get the creeps, and we'd better all draw a little nearer," said the school-girl solemnly.

Stella laughed.

"It's neither," she said.

"Oh, but it must be one or the other," replied the school-girl knowingly. "A story must have some love or a ghost in it, or it's not a story at all."

"Well, I'll see," said Stella.

And she started off again.

"Once upon a time——"

"Hen it's a fairy 'tory," whispered the little mite, with decision.

"There lived a young girl who was shut up by herself in a high tower because people said she was mad. And all day long she could see from the little narrow slits of windows the people passing in the streets below, and she seemed to be always waiting and watching for someone."

"Now, the princess—for she was a princess, Tottie—was not really mad, but only laboring under a spell, and you must know that this spell was cast upon her by a face, a face she had seen passing outside the palace windows, and this face had charmed her senses away and left her no taste for life or its use, and only left her strength to wish all day from the turret in which the king had imprisoned her by the advice of his court-physician, a very wicked man, who said that she was possessed of a witch, and dangerous.

"Well, one day the king, who missed his daughter sadly, and was quite changed and morose, issued a proclamation, promising half his kingdom to any one who would cure his daughter or remove the spell which had been cast upon her. Well, plenty of clever doctors and learned men tried, but they all failed, and even made the princess worse through the perpetual worrying which they gave her.

"At last the king in despair issued a decree that he would give two-thirds of his kingdom to the successful man, but that any who attempted and failed should be beheaded.

"This deterred the rest of the wise folk, and the poor princess was left in peace until one day, when a gray-bearded traveler presented himself at the palace, and, prostrating himself at the feet of the king, made the usual offer. The king warned him of the penalty of non-success, and the graybeard was conducted to the turret.

"When he entered the room the princess rose, and with anger demanded that he should leave her in peace, as she was weary of all the quacks in the world; but the old man took no heed, and requested to be left alone with the princess for one minute, good time, by the dial on the turret.

"So the attendants withdrew. No sooner had they shut the door than the old man pulled off his spectacles and disclosed the face of a handsome young man. It was the face which had bewitched the princess, and for which she had been waiting; now she saw it, she was cured; and when the attendants rushed in, the old man took the princess by the hand and led her to the king, saying:

"'Behold, sire! your daughter is cured.'

"Then the king embraced his daughter, and with tears of joy commanded that two thirds of his kingdom should be made over to the old man.

"But the successful doctor pulled off his beard, and, flinging himself at the foot of the throne, exclaimed:

"'Sire, though I am but a poor peasant, I covet not thy kingdom nor desire thy riches. I love thy daughter; give her to me, and thy servant shall bless thy name.'"

"I know the rest," exclaimed the school-girl. "And the king gave the handsome young man the princess, and they were married, and lived happily ever afterwards."

"Do be quiet, Tousin Milly!" remonstrated the little one. "Did they, Tousin Tella?"

"No," said Stella, with a strange and almost mournful smile, "the king waxed wroth, and commanded his soldiers to carry the presumptuous young man from the kingdom. 'For,' said he—and he was a wise king, Tottie—'princesses must marry princes and not peasants; riches must wed with riches, not poverty.'

"So the young man was carried away, and never saw his princess again."

"And the princess?" asked half a dozen voices.

"What became of her, Cousin Stella?"

"Alas," hesitated Stella, with the same smile, "she went dazed again, and had to be taken back to her tower again; and that's the end of the story."

"And a very pretty story, too," decided the school-girl. "But you said it was not to be a love story, and it was; wasn't it, girls? Because, of course, the young man loved the princess?"

"It's rather a melancholy ending, Stella," remarked another.

"All real love does end sadly," said Stella. "And now we must have some tea ——."

At that instant a loud, decisive knock resounded in the hall. All the girls—including Stella—jumped, and were startled.

CHAPTER VIII.

There's no art
To find the mind's construction in the face.
SHAKESPEARE.

"Dear me!" exclaimed Mrs. Newton, who had just entered the room. "Who can that be? Not a visitor, surely, on Christmas night? No more of those tiresome carol-singers, I hope?"

All the girls stood listening, with their faces turned towards the door. A footman opened the hall-door, a strange, pleasant voice could be heard in short colloquy for a minute or two, then the drawing-room door was opened by John Thomas, and there entered no other than Stella's stranger—Mr. Louis Felton!

He was wrapped in a loose, thick coat; he held a loose, soft cap in his hand, and on his face was the smile of half-amused but wholly good-humored satire which Stella remembered so well. Mrs. Newton stared for a moment—in which she seemed to, and most assuredly did, take in every article of the stranger's careless attire; and then, with her company smile, tempered by a little cold frown, which seemed to say, "I really don't know you," glanced at the card.

Stella—her self-command and possession dispersed and routed by this amazing apparition—had risen from her chair and stood looking at him with a smile that was almost nervous. The stranger bowed—it was a courtly bow—to all, and, though none but she was conscious of it, in especial to Stella.

"Madam," he said, addressing himself to Mrs. Newton, "very pardon this intrusion. I was unwilling to enter in my present and unsuitable attire; but your servant opened the door and announced me before I could warn him. Madam, I am the bearer of a note, not direct from the writer, but as his messenger's deputy."

With a smile, unembarrassed and wonderfully frank and sweet, he took from his breast an envelope and handed it with courtly grace to the bewildered matron.

"Ex—," she said hesitatingly—"excuse me if I do not understand, Mr.—Mr.—Felton. A messenger's deputy?"

"Yes," he said with a laugh to match the smile. "The writer of the note dispatched a messenger on horseback. The man arrived—as far as my house, when the horse slipped and threw him within a yard of my gate. I heard him, fortunately, and with the aid of a box of fuses discovered him half up to his waist in snow, with a sprained ankle. As he could not move, I carried him into my room, laid him beside the fireplace"—he laid a stress upon the place—"comfortably wrapped up in a thick rug, and set off with the note, which he declared must be delivered immediately."

Mrs. Newton smiled, but was still bewildered and puzzled, and called to the footman.

"It is very kind of you, Mr. Felton. I did not know I had so considerate a neighbor."

She glanced at Stella as much as to say:

"Who can it be? Somebody from the Hall or the Manor?"

But Stella remained motionless, her eyes cast upon the ground, realizing the whole scene as the pleasant voice described it.

"And," continued Mrs. Newton, "I am so shocked you should have exposed yourself to the dreadful weather. Pray be seated. John, take this gentleman's coat. We have dined ——"

But Mr. Felton courteously interrupted her.

"I am grateful, madam; but I cannot leave my patient. A sprain is a painful thing, and uncomfortable to bear in solitude."

Mrs. Newton stared.

"Solitude!" she said in amazement. "Your servants ——"

"I do not possess any, madam," he retorted, with a smile of humor just apparent on his finely cut lips.

"N—no servants!" exclaimed Mrs. Newton. "Surely you are jesting, sir. W—what house? Excuse me, but I have not the honor of knowing whom I am addressing. Do you come from the Hall or the Manor?"

"Neither," replied the stranger, the smile broadening. "My name, as the card may inform you, is Louis Felton, and I am the owner of Heavithorne, or, as I believe it is less pretentiously and more consistently termed, the Hut."

"The Hut!" exclaimed Mrs. Newton, staring at him. "But—but you are not living there without servants, without anything?"

"Yes, madam," he replied, throwing back his head a little and laughing quietly. "There is furniture enough, in all conscience, and dust too. I have plenty to eat, thanks to a convenient traveling-bag, and a fair stock of contentment. I should like a fire, perhaps; but as there is no fuel I cannot make it, and as I make myself comfortable in the rug, which, by the way, is an excellent thing, as the unfortunate guest will admit."

Mrs. Newton, by dint of staring and hard thinking, had determined upon a course of action. Things did not look promising. Mr. Louis Felton looked as poor as his house, but then he might be only eccentric and extremely rich. It would not be safe to give him the cold shoulder—he looked a gentleman, and she would hope for the best.

So, with a cordiality which the worldly-wise lady knew how to assume, she insisted upon his taking his seat, or at least approaching the fire, and, stalking up to it, she said, with a bland smile:

"Let me introduce my daughter, Mr. Felton—Miss Newton. Stella, my dear, you know the old—ahem! the pretty, romantic little villa at the end of the park, which has been empty so long—this gentleman is the owner, Mr. Louis Felton."

Mr. Louis Felton bowed low with his frank smile, and Stella, longing to declare that she had met him before, but feeling unable to speak, bowed in return, and made room for him at the fire, where the cousins, one and all, smiled a welcome.

"I will warm my hands," he said, "and then start for home. My poor friend does not seem a particularly patient individual, and was in such a state of excitement at his mishap—not for the pain, mark me, but on account of the delay in the delivery of the letter—that I promised I would make all haste back to him as an assurance of its safe receipt."

This he said thoughtfully to the fire over which he was bending, then he turned his frank, brown eyes upon Stella, and with a little sad smile said:

"You are quite right in your estimation of the Hut; its appellation fits it to a nicety. It is antique, interesting, and draughty."

"It must be dreadfully cold and cheerless," she said, looking at him with a dangerous pity in her gentle eyes. "Are you not frozen—no fire, no friends—all alone? This so dreary at Christmas."

"I do not find it so very dreadful," he returned candidly in, at least, I did not think it so until this moment," he put in, in a low key, looking at her significantly. "Perhaps because I am used to the cold, and have spent many a Christmas as solitary."

Here Mrs. Newton, who had left the room, reentered.

"Mr. Felton, we cannot find the horse anywhere. I sent to have him unsaddled and stabled."

Mr. Felton laughed.

"Madam, the horses that brought me here are warming at your hospitable fire this moment."

The cousins laughed, and Tottie was so amused that she left Stella's dress and went to pat the horse nearest her, whereupon the stranger lifted her in his arms and set her upon his shoulder with a kiss, from which perch she looked down proudly and triumphantly.

"Credit me, madam, for more consideration for my neck than to trust it on such a night to a horse that had already stumbled. No; I tied him to the balustrade in the hall," he added, laughing, "and confided my valuable head to my own legs."

Mrs. Newton smiled, because all the rest were smiling, and because it was positively impossible to resist the genial laugh and the handsome, good-humored face of the stranger. Then she said decisively:

"All the more reason that you should not return to your uncomfortable quarters. It must be simply frightful in such a night without a fire—dreadful, and I can't think how any one can ——"

Here she stopped, still doubting whether it would be wise to pour her vinegar upon a man of uncertain position.

"Not at all," said Mr. Felton; "indeed, I have such a strong imagination that I shall be able to raise up a picture of this comfortable room and glorious fire, and that shall serve me until I go to sleep. And now good-night."

Stella held out her hand reluctantly, and looked across at Mrs. Newton.

"Mamma," she said falteringly, "could we not send two of the men with a mattress to bring the messenger here? Mr. Felton will, for his charity's sake, perhaps, consent to that."

Mr. Felton bowed.

"And spend the rest of the Christmas-day with us," said Mrs. Newton.

There was nothing for it but compliance, and, perhaps not ill-pleased that he should be compelled to accept, the strange owner of Heavithorne, who insisted upon accompanying the servants to the Hut, agreed to return with them and spend his Christmas-night beside a cheerful fire and in cheerful society, instead of in a cold, comfortless room in solemn solitude.

In a short time the cavalcade returned. During their absence Mrs. Newton had been so much occupied in giving orders anent the bed-chamber to be occupied by the master of Heavithorne that she had no time to communicate the contents of the letter to Stella, who seemed to have become all smiles, blushes and absence of mind, which, however, disappeared as the voyagers returned, bringing the lamed man with them.

Mrs. Newton—indeed, four of them—went into the hall to see the arrival. Mr. Felton had superintended the ambulance, and thus the messenger lay as comfortably as could be expected.

He was a young man of rather forbidding aspect, with heavily wrinkled brow, and lips rather tightly compressed, with the suppression of some intense emotions of the past. He was grateful, though, especially to Mr. Felton, who had seen as tender as a woman with him, and he expressed his thanks rather sullenly, but genuinely.

"Here we are," said Mr. Felton, as the footman helped him off with his coat, "and I think our friend will do if he be put to bed and has his leg bandaged. As to the horse, one of your servants has ridden him round to your stable, which, I confess, is a great deal more comfortable and suitable to his requirements than my hall."

Saying all this and a great deal more in his pleasant, musical voice, he entered the drawing-room, and became, as it were, en famille.

Mrs. Newton was not a philanthropist, and had not the bump of universal benediction strongly developed, but even she could not but thaw under the genial warmth of his humor, and soon—in so short a time as a couple of hours—the cousins had grown quite familiar, and Tottie had—just before her departure to bed—requested a kiss, which Mr. Felton graciously bestowed; some of the cousins feeling during the salutation that Tottie was at that moment of her life to be envied.

Mrs. Newton asked some questions. When they were of a general character Louis Felton answered them with well-bred politeness; when they touched upon himself and his affairs he was more reserved. Stella was seated near him, and listened with all her ears—and, perhaps, her heart. She theorist the delicate face more beautiful than ever, and he thought—well, perhaps one person's thoughts are enough at a time.

The evening slipped away rapidly; the elderly cousin had come in for his cup of tea, and now sat in his corner listening with pleased smile and continual "Ays, ays!" to the conversation.

Presently, the cousins having adjourned for snap-dragon, Stella found herself standing with Mr. Louis Felton a little apart from the rest, beside a man in armor. He was looking at the picture, and she, acting on the impulse of the moment, said, in a low voice:

"Are you an artist, Mr. Felton?"

He started visibly, but smiled down upon her faintly.

"I hope so."

"Yes; but I mean do you paint?"

"No," he said; "that is beyond me. I am a sculptor."

"I thought so," she said in a low voice.

"Why?" he asked.

"Because ——"

Then she hesitated. She decided not to tell him of the sea nymph at the Countess of Dorsvenil's. She felt that the supposed resemblance must be only a fancy of hers, or at the most a coincidence.

"Well, a lady is not always compelled to tell her reasons," she said, returning his smile.

"Never," he said. "But I am curious to know how you discovered it. Yes, I am a sculptor; a very poor one, I am afraid."

"You like your art?"

"I love it," he replied, "which is fortunate, as I get my bread by it."

She looked up at him with a curious glance. In her estimation he had gained by that fact.

"And is it hard work? It must be with the chisel and the mallet. Are you not afraid of spoiling a face at the least touch?"

He laughed.

"No; I never commence a face until the rest of the figure is completed, and not even then until I have my ideal in my mind's eye very plainly. And when I have done that I work at the face without stopping until it is finished."

"A sort of inspiration!" asked Stella, with a slight blush.

"Exactly; sometimes quite an inspiration," he replied, looking at her—she thought with some significance.

"I have seen very little good statuary," she said thoughtfully.

"Then you must not come to my studio for it," he laughed.

"Where is your studio?" she asked. He was so candid, so frank, so gentle in his manner, that she felt bold.

"In a back street in London. A very dingy room in a very dingy house."

"Why do you not bring your work down here?" she said. Then she blushed, for she felt that she had uttered an invitation.

"I think I shall," he said. "The Hut would make a capital den for me. I think I shall. Perhaps, if I should, you will pay me a visit, Miss Newton?"

Stella did not answer. At this moment Mr. Proudley made his appearance with an immense dish of raisins and a bottle of spirits of wine; the children—young and old—set up a clamor, and conversation was rendered impossible. Mr. Proudley set the dish on the table, applied a sufficient quantity of spirits of wine to the raisins, ignited it, and then stood at a little distance with as broad a grin as his dignity would allow him to exhibit. All—Stella and Mr. Felton included—grabbed at the raisins; there were general laughter and screaming.

Suddenly the hall porter—who had heard a step on the stone flight—opened the door, and there entered Sir Richard Wildfang! His appearance was so sudden, his dark features rendered so ghostly and fiendish by the wan, white light of the burning spirits, that the children uttered a scream, and Stella turned pale and shrank back, clutching someone's arm as she did so. The someone was Louis Felton. Sir Richard regarded the group for a moment with his cynical smile, then came forward with outstretched hand to Mrs. Newton.

"My dear Sir Richard," she said, "I am so glad you have come. Your note has just reached me."

As Sir Richard shook hands with Stella, her face showed her surprise so plainly that he looked for an explanation.

"Oh, I have not had time to tell Stella," said Mrs. Newton. "Your messenger met with an accident, and had it not been for this gentleman, a near neighbor, who found your man and was kind enough to bring the note himself, we should not have known you were coming."

Sir Richard smiled, and advanced to bow to the kind gentleman, as Mrs. Newton introduced them to each other.

The two advanced, bowed coldly, and looked hard into each other's faces; they met with no reflection of sympathy.

"My dear," said Mrs. Newton, "Sir Richard has taken the shooting-box, and kindly offered to pay us a visit ——"

"Say, rather, was presuming enough to beg for shelter, my men not having prepared a room for me," corrected Sir Richard, with a bow, adding to Stella: "You know I was about to tell you at Lady Dorsvenil's that I should be your near neighbor at Christmas, but something interrupted me."

Stella had regained her usual stately politeness, and exchanged remarks on the weather with the wealthy baronet, and, the snap-dragon being demolished, they all repaired to the drawing-room. But though they were more in number, the talk flagged. Stella was quiet; all her spirits seemed to have gone. Mr. Felton had grown reserved. Presently Sir Richard displayed some anxiety about his man.

"I hope he is not hurt," he said. "I was afraid something would happen to him, for he is the most reckless creature. I only engaged him last night."

"Indeed?" said Mrs. Newton. "I hope he is honest and trustworty."

"Eminently so, if I am any judge of character," said Sir Richard, with a peculiar smile.

"I found him in the street, and rescued him from what he would think a great disgrace—the prison and the poor-house."

"Dear me!" said Mrs. Newton.

Then she added:

"Ah, we have heard of your benevolence, Sir Richard. Poor man! I dare say he is extremely grateful."

"Extremely," said Sir Richard, with another of his peculiar smiles.

Stella rose to get an album. Mr. Felton, who was near the table, bent over and almost whispered:

"Have you known Sir Richard Wildfang long, Miss Newton?"

"No," answered Stella, with so evident a dislike to the very name in her tone that the questioner was justified in asking her;

"Do you not like him?"

"I do not," said Stella, glancing at the dark, sleek face of the influential baronet.

Then in a lower whisper, and with strange earnestness, she added:

"Mr. Felton, you should be a judge of faces and the minds they index. Tell me honestly, do you think the face a good one—one to be trusted?"

"No," replied the sculptor, glancing up.

"A bad one, then?" breathed Stella, "and not to be trusted?"

"A very bad one, and to be feared," replied Louis Fenton, in a tone as earnest as her own.

"When did Mr. Felton arrive?" asked Sir Richard, in a low whisper of Mrs. Newton by the fire.

"Yesterday only," replied the wily lady, anxious for some information.

Sir Richard elevated his eyebrows.

"Yesterday only. Hem! Do you know anything of him, may I ask?"

"N—o," hesitated Mrs. Newton. "He must be of good family, you know, Sir Richard—he owns Heavithorne!"

Sir Richard smiled as if pitying her simplicity.

"Not necessarily. Remember that the property is in Chancery. This may be one of the distant branches. My dear Mrs. Newton, may I venture, as a man of business and of the world, to warn you? This young fellow has a plausible tongue and an interesting face—see, he has managed to interest even our daughter with it. My dear madam, it behooves you to be careful. There are so many impostors and they all have nice, well-bred ways and taking faces."

Mrs. Newton was in a tremor of horror, and she felt inclined to rise, drag the valuable Stella from contact with the stranger and to turn Mr. Felton himself out of doors. But Sir Richard restrained her.

"Perhaps it may be all right, my dear Mrs. Newton. But at the best the young man must be very —ahem!—poor. Consider the state of the property. Yes, very poor!"

So the skillful man of the world had already commenced to undermine beneath Mr. Louis Felton's feet, and it behooved Don Cupid to buckle on his armor if he would hope to cope with craft, subtlety and cunning.

TO BE CONTINUED.

JOCOSE JOKES BY A JONAH JUGGLER.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY ED. P. BRITT.

TWEED should be indicted for *highway* robbery! Why? *For stealing away!*

WE DENY the rumor that *algebra* is a relative of *Walter Bray.*

AN AUTHOR shouldn't be called a *liar* because he is writing a *story.*

A HUNGRY fellow was eating. He laid a piece of *pie* at his side, and a *rat* walked off with it. And still the *pi-rate* runs at large!

A PRINTER who never put a "*pi*" on his case at last got drowned. Then he was *re*moved.

WHY is it that, to prevent a hen from flying, we *chip her* wings? Ask THE CLIPPER.

WHO said Theo. Thomas was like a hotel-keeper from the fact that he keeps a *victim*? Read *vide* ism.

HIS FATHER.—Some time ago Barnum's Circus was billed to appear in ——, New York State. As the day of exhibition dawned, young Bevan was up bright and early. He had borrowed a few pennies the previous evening, and on this particular morning he might have been seen around the depot and hotels, persuading early-risers to purchase a copy of the morning newspaper—*The Bugle.* We must here remark that this young man has attended, and always will attend, every show that makes his town a visit. He is even known to have spent his last cent, and often borrowed money to get in with. But this time he was completely "done for." Not meeting with good success, later in the day he presented himself before his "aged parient," who is strongly opposed to any member of his family attending shows, and especially a circus. Young George was all smiles as he said: "Father, you know the circus is here today; I'm entirely out of funds with which to purchase the requisite pieces of pasteboard to attend the exhibition. I would like a half." The old gentleman was surprised for the moment at the suddenly of the young advocate of sawdust sports; but he soon recovered and proceeded to lecture George. Among other things he remarked that when he was a boy, he would sooner ask his father to take a drink than for money to throw away on a circus." "Yes," said George, "that may be; but my father's a better man than yours was," and the deed B. "went down" into his purse for the stamps.

NEW YORK CLIPPER.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1875.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

☞ Letters seeking information replied to only through this department; no answers by mail.

D. A. H. N., Renova.—1. You were bound by the "custom of the place," if you were fully cognizant of it at the making of the match. If not, you would insist upon a legitimate deck, it having been the duty of your antagonist, if he contemplated any departure from the regular method of play, to specify it when he made the match. 2. Neither is out. It is to avoid the possibility of two or more players reaching the game-point that cassino is played either in single deals or "first out who calls out (before the last trick is lifted), and a misdeal to forfeit the game." 3. Yes; can count out on sweeps. 4. Provided B has neither bet after the draw nor raised his cards before discovering that he is short or has too many, the extra card can be taken back, or a fifth one be given him from the deck. 5. The cards win on the show. Smith's calling of two pair amounted to nothing, as Brown was not obliged to take Smith's word for it. 6. High should deal in all games, on the principle that the man who jumps over a fence does better than he who crawls under it. 7. Ace is high in cutting at seven-up, because it is high card in that game. Where no game is to be played, and cards are being cut for money or refreshments, the value of the ace ought to be its self-evident one, which is one. 8. The same principle applies to cassino, in which the cards have no special or capturing value. The natural order of the cards determine the cut, and ace is low, and king high, in that game, whereas such is not the case in euchre, sixty-six, and in many others. 9. The dealer can give, although the gift may put one of his opponents out. 10 It is optional with C to deal or to beg. 11. No. The same principle applies as at commercial or auction pitch. C is entitled to the "sell," if he claims it. 12. All points count except those made by the party who had the foul hand. 13. A wins. A three-card flush is of no value.

J. L. B., Ingersoll.—We cannot tell from your statement what B won. If he understood his business, he should have had ninety cents after parting with the turkey; if he was generous, and allowed his partner a half interest in the sixty cents of C and D, all B had was sixty cents, and A, who had the turkey, was the only party "ahead." When A and B had won the second game, A had acquired a half interest in the turkey, without expending a cent. He had no claim upon the sixty cents lost by C and D; and, having paid B thirty cents for the latter's remaining half interest, he secured the bird at an actual outlay of thirty cents. The remaining ninety cents of the $1.20 involved in the two games belonged to B. Thus A and B would have been "ahead" thirty cents each. This is as it should have been.

H. L. J., Minneapolis.—1. J. C. Heenan. 2. They fought 42 rounds (five after the referee had deserted his post), Heenan knocking Sayers down 25 times, and throwing him 13 times. They fell together twice, and Sayers slipped down once. 3. No; nor was his arm broken, but it was badly injured. 4. Heenan's weight on the day was 178lb. Sayers is said to have scaled 161lb. 5. He did not. 6. Only one (that a fac-simile of the champion belt) permanently. 7. Nat Langham beat Sayers. 8. Yes; in brief. 9. Not to be had.

T. N., Brooklyn.—1. It is only occasionally that a teacher of the concertina is heard of. A Mr. Sedgwick, who, we believe, resides in Brooklyn, and is known as a skilled performer, is, we understand, a teacher of this instrument, and inquiries made at any of the music-stores in that city will no doubt furnish you with the information wanted. 2. For several reasons the concertina has almost superseded the old-fashioned accordion. They can be purchased at any musical-instrument store, of which there are several in Brooklyn.

J. S. B.—A loses. Our position has always been the simple one that a man must accomplish what he has expressly pledged himself to do. Had B specifically agreed to beat A, or had A's proposition been simply "I'll throw you the dice," then the obligation to beat would have rested equally upon both. The only exception we make is as to a dead heat between horses. That has of late years been covered by a specific rule, and turf law must govern turf bets.

CRIBBAGE.—"1. What is the penalty for misdealing at cribbage? 2. D takes 12 points for two fours, a five and six. B pegs him back 6 holes. Can D peg B back 6 holes and take his own 6, or can he take 12?"......1. The nondealer may score two points, and demand another deal, so long as the error is discovered prior to his taking up his cards. 2. D is entitled to 18 points—12 to which he was justly entitled, and 6 for B's error in pegging him back.

SAM, Washington.—1. F. S. Chanfrau first acted Mose at Mitchell's Olympic Theatre, in this city, Feb. 15, 1848, in a sketch written by B. A. Baker, entitled "New York in 1848," and then first performed for the author's benefit. Mr. Chanfrau made so great a hit in the character that Mr. Baker wrote a new piece, elaborating the character of Mose, entitled "A Glance at New York." 2. No. He was a ship-carpenter.

P. M. D., Girard.—1. A's hand was a confirmed one as soon as he bet upon it. It was foul, he loses his bet, and forfeits all claim to the pool. 2. If you had discarded (and cards should always be discarded before there is any serving), then you must take the three cards you called for. Cards once discarded cannot be resumed, on general principles; and at poker "mistakes go."

F. H. M., Claremont.—A misdeal at cassino forfeits the game ordinarily. There is one stage, however, at which there should be no such forfeiture. That is in dealing first time around, because then the dealer can gain nothing from a misdeal; and his opponent should then have the option of dealing himself or making the other player deal again.

H. J. O., E. Cambridge.—1. A deuce in your hand added to a seven and a nine on the board will make nines. 2. A deuce in your hand added to a seven on the board will make nine. 3. A nine from your hand added to a nine on the board will make nines. 4. You can put together as many nines as you can find. 5. You cannot use any card on the board to alter your antagonist's combination.

J. W. O., Virginia City.—Although they were matched in England, Ned O'Baldwin and Joe Wormald did not fight there, the stakes (£400) being awarded to Wormald because Ned was not at the starting-place for the ground named for the fight. No blame attached to O'Baldwin in the matter, he being evidently the victim of a plot.

ALWIN.—1. He is paid a certain salary per week. The combination of which he is one are all paid salaries, and the managers of it share the receipts with other managers. 2. "Timon of Athens" was first acted in this city, at the Franklin Theatre, April 8, 1839. It was adapted to the modern stage by N. H. Bannister, who acted Timon.

A. K., Memphis.—From the way in which your question was worded, we inferred that it related to Western languages, and our answer was approximately correct. The answer was modified by the word "probably," and was not positive enough to decide a bet by. When correct data cannot be obtained, we decline to give decisions.

W. C. HULL.—"In playing the last card at a game of cribbage, and it makes 31, can the player claim 3 points—2 for 31 and 1 for the last card, or only 2 points for the 31?" ......Only 2 points for the 31. This answer does not apply to the five-card game.

D. McC. AND F., Indianapolis.—He has the reputation of being a first-class leader. We believe he is engaged at present. He commenced the past season at the Academy of Music, Chicago, Ill. 2. It is a matter of private agreement. From $25 to $50 per week.

J. P.—The quickest answer we can give you, and it is, besides, the best advice that can be given in such an emergency, is to say: Call at the office of either *The Scientific American*, Park Row, or *The American Artisan*. You will save yourself trouble, and probably money.

CUSTOM HOUSE, Shanghae.—No person has ever turned a triple somersault without the use of a spring board, and great doubt exists whether such a feat has ever been "squarely and fairly" performed, even with the assistance of the spring board.

H. C., Cincinnati.—It is important that this inquirer should be informed if Mr. Joseph Perry of that city is or is not the sole surviving relative of Com. Perry of Lake Erie fame. We cannot answer, and be sure we are right; and our readers will kindly assist.

S. S. P., Chicago.—About sixty tons. It varies with different steamers, even when they are all screws. Sidewheelers fairly eat up coal. There is, however, but one sidewheeler in the transatlantic passenger trade, and she (the Scotia) has probably made her last trip.

J. H., Boston.—You ask us to answer "Yes" or "No" to the question: "Does a man win or lose, betting on a sure thing?" How can a man lose who bets on a sure thing? Now state the actual case, and we will tell you whether he wins or draws.

E. J., Franklin.—When B acknowledged that "he had lost the bet in accordance with the spirit in which it was made," that ended the matter. There could then be no doubt as to his meaning. He had bet upon one thing, not upon two, and could not have two chances.

A. F. D., Newark.—The balls used by different performers vary in weight, and all we know concerning their actual weight is the announcement on the programmes—20, 40 and 60 pounds are the average announcements.

FRED. BARTELL, Colorado.—1. The distance has been run at a faster rate of speed than that mentioned by you. 2. No such offer was made. 4. The fastest time for 100 yards is 9¾sec. No record of time made in flying-start races.

MILLER BROTHERS, New Orleans.—1. B wins the first bet, as to the odds. The second will be determined by the simple fact of one player making 50 points before the other. 2. There is no chance here to "give reasons."

A. W.—C having made the trump, it is not proper for either his opponent or his partner to play alone. If his opponent is allowed to play it alone, and he makes all the tricks, he will be entitled to four points.

P. H. W., Davenport.—As there is no such character in any known legitimate play, he could not have done so. If you mean Don Cæsar De Bazan, we say no; because that character is not included in his repertory.

SCHOONERS OF BEER.—James G. Bennett was on board his yacht the Henrietta during the race across the Atlantic from Sandy Hook to Cowes, Isle of Wight, in December, 1866.

BILLY ALLEN.—B is right. Jim Mace was beaten by John Pratt, Bob Brettle and Tom King. He was not beaten by Joe Goss, whom he defeated twice, and fought a draw with.

C. SCHNEIDER, Goodspeed.—1. Walk with a straight leg, head erect, only one foot being off the ground at a time. 2. The best record for walking 3,960 feet is 4m. 40s., by W. Perkins, in England.

BOXER, Rochester.—1. We cannot answer that question until he arrives from England. 2. The District-attorney withdrew the charges against him, and Mike McCoole was released Feb. 12 last. He resides in St. Louis.

J. A. K.—When the Excise Law first went into practical operation, about seven years ago, Westchester County was exempted from its jurisdiction, and hence the numerous beer-saloons still visible in Mott Haven.

D. A. B.—The widow's dower is a life-interest in one-third of the real-estate of which the husband died possessed; and no claim, judgment or decree against the husband can prejudice the wife's right of dower.

GEORGE, Quincy.—1. We have searched our files, but cannot find any account of the event. Cannot you give a better idea of the date? 2. Thank you; but we do not require one.

A. L. F., Plantsville.—No answers by mail. Your description is not sufficiently minute for us to identify him. Write again, stating his parents' name, and we will then try and oblige you.

A. S. C, Brooklyn.—As the entertainment is original with him, it would be unjust to him to publish it, and particularly so because so much of its success depends upon the manner of its delivery.

KULLEY.—1. We prefer not to express our opinion upon such matters in this department. 2. Unmarried. 3. No; but he played some Irish characters. 4. It is purely a matter of opinion.

N. E., Boston.—Our opinion is that he cannot be required to do it. Such matters, however, are for the U. S. Courts to determine under the Civil-rights Act, and not for a newspaper.

PHOTOGRAPHER, Brooklyn.—We cannot undertake to recommend anyone. We know J. E. M., and we think you can rely on what he may tell you.

J. B. F., Fort Lyon.—There have been several steam vessels of that name, and one clipper ship. Please give us a hint as to which is meant.

C. A. BENNET, San Francisco.—No record of three standing wide jumps. Bob Way is said to have cleared upward of 42ft.

CHINCHY, Louisville.—B wins. The jump must be measured from toe to heel, being the actual distance cleared.

L. C. B., South Wellfleet.—Watch the dramatic summary of THE CLIPPER for their precise whereabouts. They are in Texas.

ORA, Philadelphia.—1, 2. We know of none. 3. By reading THE CLIPPER attentively you will learn his whereabouts. 4. He died in Toronto, Ont., in 1868.

CURIOSITY, Brandon.—1. No person of that name is known to us as a professional performer. 2. It is purely a matter of opinion.

TOMMY.—Minstrel managers do not take boys on trial or to teach them their business. Practice some specialty until you can excel in it.

DAVIS, Elmira.—The bet having been on high card, and not on high hand, it is a draw. The four cards behind each of the two aces were not in the bet.

ENQUIRER.—B wins. The bet had been decided in this paper before you wrote. No answers by mail. Besides, Canadian postage-stamps are worthless here.

J. H. B., Ottawa.—B had no business to play alone against A. We cannot make rules for games that are improperly played.

TWENTY-ONE, Philadelphia.—You are to be paid single stakes only. There can be no natural, except what is termed an acquired one, where cards are split.

B. W.—That is a general rule, applicable to all games of cards. It would only complicate matters to make distinctions.

F. H. C., Hartford.—They use it only while in training, and then for the purpose of hardening the flesh. Nothing is better than the juice of lemons.

BROOKS.—Yes; Lulu was shot from the stage of Niblo's Garden to a platform suspended in the air some distance above.

D. B. J., McKeesport.—You must play your hand, it being obligatory on you to assist in sending up the player who gave you out.

H. F. S.—We have not space enough to spare to publish the rules of any game whatsoever. It is a sufficiently heavy tax upon our columns to decide disputes.

J. S. T., Chicago.—A's partner had nothing to say. The dealer could bunch the cards, or enter into any other arrangement he deemed best for the interests of his side.

H. C.—1. Tompkins square is corporation property, and always has been. 2. How the city obtained the ground comprising it we are not prepared to state.

C. M., New Orleans.—No answers by mail. 1. If you have a poor study, you had better not think of going upon the stage. 2. Peruse our advertising columns.

A. B. C., Dubuque.—For jokes, send to De Witt, 33 Gold street, this city; for the songs, to Louis P. Goullaud, 86 Tremont street, Boston, Mass.

BLUE BIRD.—Owing to an extra pressure of business this week, we are compelled to defer answering you definitely until next week.

G. P. E.—1. Thanks. We might use them at some future time; but not immediately. 2. We do not keep them for sale. Watch our advertising columns and you will find volumes offered for sale at times.

J. MCF. AND OTHERS.—As the misrepresentation appeared in another paper, it would be better to send the correction to that office.

J. C.—1. Not if moderately used. Intoxication causes rapid breathing. 2. You should always practice before meals.

E. E. FELLOWS, Quincy.—Write to G. F. Lehnder, Crown and Vine streets, Philadelphia, Pa. He can furnish you with those dates.

J. P. M., Albany.—1. McKean Buchanan died in Denver, Col., April 19, 1872. 2. Charles K. Fox died in this city Jan. 17, 1875.

READER, Jamestown.—We have been too busy to search our files for the information you require this week, but will try to do so next week.

J. H. C., Cleveland.—It's a new advertisement. There is another place there called the Varieties, managed by G. A. Henderson.

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL.—"C plays a six, B an eight, C a seven, and counts a run of 3; B next plays a six and claims a run of 3 also. Is he entitled to it?"......Yes.

C. W. H., Cleveland.—There is such a place at 108 East Fourteenth street, this city. We know nothing of their reliability.

W. J. M., Louisville.—1. See advertisement in this week's issue. 2. We never compare the merits of professional performers in this department.

C. A. L., Liberty.—1. You can purchase them of any wholesale stationer, but we cannot undertake to recommend any particular firm. 2. He is dead.

H. B. D., Attleboro Falls.—1. The stage of the Academy of Music, New York, is not so large as that of the Boston (Mass.) Theatre. 2. See next week.

OYSTER, Georgetown.—The centre-board sloop Lorley of the Central Hudson Yacht Club was built in 1872. If she is not the vessel you refer to, we cannot inform you.

P. B.—The greatest distance walked inside of an hour is eight miles, which was accomplished by William Perkins of England in 59m. 5s.

OLD HERCULES.—B is right, except that he should have taken for a sequence of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, which would have made his count 9 points, instead of 8.

DECLINED.—"Pretzels Dipped in Beer," "My Eliza Jane," "Dancing on the Brain," "Kathrina Strouse," "Dennis Moriarty."

ROCKS, Princeton.—1. This bet is a draw. To constitute action on it, both parties had to be candidates before the convention. 2. D loses the second bet.

F. H. D., Chicago.—High wins at poker-dice, as matter of course; and aces are lowest, and sixes highest. At card poker aces may count both ways.

SAVINGS.—There is a State Commissioner of such banks, and he makes a periodical report to the State Government; but that report is not purchasable.

J. C., Chicago.—Commence where you were before the last deal. But why play the game so that both can make points enough to carry themselves out?

P. S., Providence.—The races you refer to were all arranged beforehand. They were not real trials of skill and speed.

G. W. SMITH, Baltimore.—We believe it was done by a party in said city, about 1869 or 1870.

A. H. G., San Francisco.—If the maker of game had but one to go, he is out. Pedro must take a back seat.

L. L. D., Sturgis.—John C. Heenan and Jim Mace never fought as opponents.

R. G. MC., Gainesville.—No such letter reached us. What did you want to learn?

G. D., Philadelphia.—Thanks for the bill; but we recently published the opening bill of the same engagement.

J. G., Augusta.—Two points is the charge for a revoke at euchre, at any stage of the game.

C. B., Keene.—If you were playing legitimate euchre, C could not call for his partner's best card.

CONSTANT READER, Beaver Falls.—Advertise for him in some widely-circulated daily paper.

COCHITUATE, Mass.—At poker dice, three sixes and two aces beat three aces and two sixes.

SUBSCRIBER, Cincinnati.—Goldsmith Maid has made the fastest time (trotting) on record.

M. B., Louisville.—We do not know whether he did or not.

CURTANIS.—Nimble Dick is very insufficiently known in this locality.

PROVIDENCE.—C is out on his high and low. A's jack was worthless in that emergency.

WASH., Griffin.—We do not know when the steamboats Great Republic and R. E. Lee were launched.

P. S.—The area of the Pacific Ocean is estimated, in round numbers, at 80,000,000 square miles.

THESPIAN, Hamilton.—It would require us to read French history for a week or longer to answer your query.

T. A., Lynchburg.—It is not a stand-off. Tieing 8 is not beating it, and B loses.

D. L., Bridgeport.—At raffles, two fives and a six beat two sixes and a tray.

M. K.—The salary of a United States Circuit Judge is fixed by law at $6,000 per annum.

JOE KELLOG MCC., St. Charles.—A wins if he shows two queens, no matter what he called.

T. MCL., Troy.—Running horses not being officially timed in England, there is no record.

W. TODD, Virginia.—No; O'Baldwin and Wormald did not fight in England.

S S., Columbus.—Watch some good performers, and endeavor by hard practice to surpass their efforts.

G. O., Hamilton.—1. May 30, 1870. 2. First opened an agency at 643 Broadway, June 1 of that year.

NASHVILLE.—There is no person performing such feats at the present time in this country.

J. T. D., Bloomsburg.—The drama is the sole property of Mr. France, and is not for sale.

C. F., Fall River.—So as to reach this office by the first mail on Monday mornings at the very latest.

H. B.—If your teacher cannot get you an opening, you may consider that you have wasted three months' time.

CONSTANT READER, Evansville.—1. 2. Unmarried. 3. Born in Chicago, Ill., in 1852. 4. Simply as an actor.

CONSTANT READER.—B had to deal the cards uniformly. He could not give three cards to M and two to himself.

J. A. B., St. Louis.—The lady is acting in Toronto, Ont. We cannot say whether her husband is there or not.

S. B., Nashville.—It would be proper for the gentleman to ask the lady to take his arm.

CRESCENT, Springfield.—Thirty thousand is about the average.

H. H., Wheeling.—Thank you for the photo of the "Standard" nine.

J. F. D., Detroit.—Try elsewhere, if you don't succeed where you are. Take anything respectable that offers.

KALAMAZOO, Austin.—1. Armenia, N. Y. 2. Henry Barnum & Co.

W. N. W.—"Notre Dame" was the opening piece at the Lyceum Theatre in this city.

W. H. F.—1. 75c. for each insertion. 2. A letter addressed to him care of this office will reach him.

J. E. B., Lynchburg.—No answers by mail. We have had no recent advices concerning their movements.

G. G. LEHNDER.—Yes; they are valuable. See answer to E. E. Fellows, Quincy, Mass.

G. C. F. S. C., Boston.—It is an American adaptation of the German play called "Ultimo."

SYRACUSE.—The Athletics stand second best on the championship record. A wins.

J. M. C., Pittsford.—You will have to procure a license in each town.

MOCCASIN JOE, Fort Sanders.—There is no such work published.

E. J. S., Springfield.—We know nothing of the parties further than that they advertise.

G. H. T., Zanesville.—We have never heard of any such publication.

BLANK, Fostoria.—B has a right to draw once from the "widow."

MINNIE, Utica.—We never give such addresses. A letter addressed to him in care of this office will reach him.

E. T. G., Louisville.—Address him in care of this office, stating his former position on the envelope.

C. B. M.—Write to them in care of this office, explaining your motive for the request.

G. J. E., Cincinnati.—If cassino is the game, B is wrong.

C. D., Cincinnati.—Both events occurred June 13, 1856.

RENIG.—The penalty of a revoke at euchre is two points.

A. W. L.—We have no knowledge of their whereabouts.

A. M. B., Lafayette.—Address him in care of this office.

J. R. T., Reading.—Know nothing of that committee.

J. A. D., Quincy.—The player neither wins nor loses.

MME. ANGOT.—Send your letter in our care, he says.

Q. R., Boston.—See dramatic summary of this issue.

ED., Detroit.—See answer to "F. H. D., Chicago."

CHUNBALE.—1. London, Eng. 2. Yes. 3. No.

W. G. A., Denison.—We do not need them.

A. M. H., Worcester.—Yes; several times.

G. H. S., St. Louis.—You did right.

J. M. S., Chicago.—Born in 1830.

H. H., Phila.—Pee-ah-no.

J. H.—$45 and the hat

THE NEW YORK CLIPPER ALMANAC, FOR 1876, WILL BE READY JANUARY 8,

and can be obtained on and after that date of all newsdealers and agents,

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THE CLIPPER TIME TABLE—Fastest recorded time in horse-racing, trotting, pacing, hurdle-racing, steeplechasing, rowing, running, walking, snowshoe racing, ice-boating, swimming, skating, bicycle-riding, and by fire engines and hose companies, ocean and river steamers, and locomotives; records of jumping, lifting, the prize-ring, ratting, ball-throwing, cricket, billiards, rifle-shooting, skittles, glazing, trap-shooting, type-setting, bricklaying, etc.

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POEMS:

DECEMBER—"And So the Old Year Dies."

A REMINISCENCE OF FARNBOROUGH—April 17, 1860.

THE CENTENNIAL—"1776. The Day We Celebrate. 1876."

THE BASEBALL PLAYER'S DREAM.

THE AUTHOR'S BENEFIT.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Such of our patrons as desire to advertise in this edition of THE ALMANAC will please send their favors in not later than DECEMBER 27, after which date the forms will be closed. See rates in another department.

NEWSDEALERS can send their orders to the American News Company, 117 to 121 Nassau street, New York.

FRANK QUEEN,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER,
88 and 90 Centre street, New York.
P. O. Box 3,860.

REMARKABLE MORTALITY.—In this issue we record the deaths of Edward Eddy, John G. Cartlich, Mrs. Melinda Jones, Thomas Sidney Holland, Duane Percy, Miss Annie S. Winslow, members of the dramatic profession; Benjamin W. Thayer, theatrical manager and proprietor; Charles E. Sherwood, a celebrated circus performer; and J. Joslyn, a theatre attache.

LET ALL grumbling people try to be pleasant at Christmas-times, if at no other. This going about the house like a cheap funeral procession makes the domestic fireside resemble a burial-ground on the half shell, and freezes the young blood of a man's children.

A SOUTHERN CORRESPONDENT complains that some of the people who used to "boot their blacks" now too often have to *black their boots!*

CHRISTMAS.

The Christian world's great holiday comes at a time when nature seems to be in tune with the spirit of merry-making. The fresh, crisp coldness of the early Winter stimulates the sluggish blood like strong drink; the long night of our northern world is appropriate to indoor amusements; the approaching close of the year brings with it a desire to celebrate one feast before the end comes. Moreover, the harvests are gathered, the poultry is fattened, game is abundant, and all the good things which tickle the palate and satisfy the stomach are to be had for the asking—provided, of course, you emphasize your request with the requisite legal tender.

Probably most of us who are beginning to feel the creaking advances of age in our joints are inclined to think that Christmas is not what it used to be; but to the youngsters who will enjoy the feast in the fresh flush of hopeful youth it will seem as glorious as ever. Historically speaking, the holiday has shrunk a good deal from its original proportions. In the early colonial period of New York City the Dutch and English settlers combined to make the celebration complete. The English brought hither the ancient usages of the mother-country, which embraced an extended season of merry-making, the temporary ignoring of social rank and distinction, the distribution of vast quantities of food among the poor, the big punch-bowl, whose stimulating contents were freely ladled out to all comers, the yule-log and the evergreens, and the interchange of gifts among friends. The Dutch brought Santa Claus, who had invaded Holland from Germany before "New Amsterdam" was settled. They brought also those peaceful habits and that sentiment of good-will which, after all, lie at the base of all true Christmas rejoicing. As the city grew, the lines dividing classes were more sharply drawn, and the barriers which society erects became more impassable. So it happens now that, while Christmas is very generally observed, it is apt to be a selfish rather than a generous holiday, and it threatens to lose something of the warmth which has kept it green in the hearts of the world through all these ages.

The theatrical custom which exists very generally in England, and to a limited extent in this country, of playing pantomimes at Christmas-time finds a sufficient warrant in the traditions of the day. It was the custom for centuries, in the houses of the British nobles at the approach of the feast, to appoint a clown, often from among their own ranks, who, with the title of "Lord of Misrule," or "Abbot of Unreason," held high carnival for the amusement of the guests. When the clown ceased to be an appendage of nobility, he went on the stage and became the hero of the pantomime. In that character he is destined to hold his place for centuries to come.

Christmas, more than any other festival, ought to quicken the charitable impulse of the human heart. The story of Christ's birth, as told in the evangel of Luke—"And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling-clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn"—is sublime in its simplicity, and shows that one object of the Saviour's mission was to lift poverty out of the realm of disgrace. It is hard enough to bear—the pangs of hunger, the distress of cold, the multitudinous sufferings which want imposes—even where those who are more fortunate do all that lies in their power to relieve the misery around them. Some little portion of the year's savings set apart at Christmas-time for the benefit of the poor is money safely and properly invested. It will brighten the dying year and make the New Year glorious.

Christmas is the season of kindly wishes; and THE CLIPPER joins heartily in the prevailing custom, and trusts that its readers, one and all, may have a merry time of it. It seeks to add something to the general joy by laying before them a Christmas collection of poems and stories, sketches, etc. But Christmas is also the season of memories—and of memories, too, that are rather saddening in their influence. It is a day cut so sharply and clearly in the calendar of the year that no man, however faulty his general recollections may be, can fail to recall all his former Christmas-days. They come trooping up like ghosts from the grave of the buried Past. Some of them recall poverty and obscurity and the early struggle for bread and reputation—two things for which most of us have hungered at one time or another. Another Christmas, perhaps, revives the memory of a first success, when the fruit of fame was tasted, and found to be not half so sweet as was imagined. Yet another calls back the face of a friend—a genial, sunny face, full of life and hope and kind companionship, but which is lost to earth forever.

Avast, there! These Christmas-memories come fast enough to every reader without the aid of a newspaper to recall them. We began by saying that it was an appropriate season for merry-making. Banish the memories, and merry let it be.

HE STILL LIVES.—Charles O'Conor continues to improve, day by day, and this under the most discouraging circumstances. Instead of buoying him up, and trying to cheer him in his sickness, his physicians have steadily and persistently declared that he *must* die, that nothing could save him, and so they stopped giving him physic, and the great lawyer soon after gave signs of recuperation. Doctor Keyes tried to get a "*dead* lock" on him, but the patient skillfully warded it off, and wouldn't have it. The papers kept up their gloomy forebodings and daily predictions of his dissolution, but he had no faith in them, and took his own course, and "still lives." Doctors are too ready to give up their patients; and if Mr. O'Conor hadn't possessed a will of his own, and fought against the pills and potions of his attending physicians, to-day he might have been "lying in the cold, cold ground." Isn't this a case that requires an "investigation."

AS MOST of our murder trials wind up in the Court of Appeals, why not let them begin there? This would save time, labor and money, and render stay-of-proceeding Judges altogether unnecessary. We might also suggest the endowment of an asylum for perjured witnesses, where they could be properly trained for their important duty, and where they could be found at a moment's notice. The present plan of hunting them up in the prisons is wasteful of time and means, which the asylum would obviate. A perjury professorship could be established with very little expense, and there are plenty of gentlemen hereabouts who are well qualified for the position.

THE CLIPPER ALMANAC for 1876 promises to have a larger circulation than either of its predecessors had. We have delayed its publication until the first week in January, in order that our "Fast Time Table" may include events up to the close of 1875; the same as regards our theatrical and sporting chronologies. By particular request, our Almanac will contain that fugitive poem "Beautiful Snow," and Poe's "The Raven."

HOW THANKFUL we should be to learn that, for three generations, it has been the custom in the Astor family to put away $100,000 at the birth of every child—in said family—for the use and comfort of such child on attaining its majority. But how much more thankful we should be, had this sinking-fund been devoted to some deserving public charity.

JUST IMAGINE what next year is to give us—a Centennial Exhibition and a Presidential election! And baseball will crown the glories of '76. What more need we ask for?

OF COURSE there will be none of our "1776" heroes at the Centennial, but visitors can see the "*General Gains*" of the Revolution.

ON BEING told that it cost something to play the new game, "Our Jim" exclaimed: "Oh, I guess I can stand the racket!"

THESE ARE the shortest days. *Everything's* short just now, and in these hard times there is no end to "short boys."

MANY people think that "the Boss" took advantage of the *friend's ship shown him*, and left in consequence.

"DIAMOND JIM," of whom we hear so much and know so little, is probably a diamond in the "rough."

THE UNTIMELY DEATH of the owner of the dynamite machine seems to be universally regretted.

JIM thinks that Tweed ran away because he didn't want to see Oakey Hall in that new play!

GEN. GRANT must be an expensive President—there is such a row about his "terms."

GRAND "CLEARING-OUT" SALE—The sail that Tweed is supposed to have taken.

OAT "MEAL"—A horse's dinner.

THE ENGLISH CHESS-PLAYER MR. BIRD.—This noted member of the London Chess Club is now in this city, and for the past week has been playing games with our leading metropolitan experts. His first encounter was with Mr. Rice, who was fortunate enough to win five out of seven games with him. Then Captain McKenzie won two out of three. After this Mr. Bird began to feel his way to success; and since then he defeated Mr. Rice in six games out of seven, won four games out of five with young Mason, three out of four with Mr. Perrin, and on Dec. 18, at the Brooklyn Chess Club Rooms, defeated Signor Alberoni in four out of six games, one being drawn. His presence in the city has given quite an interest to the club meetings, and especially has the attendance been large at the Cafe International.

NEWS OF THE WEEK BOILED DOWN.

*** On Dec. 13: In a shooting affray between George W. Murphy and Henry McAleen, at Owensboro, Ky., both were killed......Patrick Quigley, a saloon-keeper of Philadelphia, shot, and, it was supposed, fatally wounded, his wife Catherine......It was cabled that a passenger of the steamship Mosel had confessed that there was another case of explosive material on board, which was arranged by means of clock-work to explode in eight days, but the report was subsequently contradicted; that M. de Cassagnac and the manager of *Le Gaulois* were acquitted of the charges brought against them in connection with the publication of the former's Bonapartist speech; that the Left Centre of the French Assembly elected eight life-Senators, and the Left one; that, according to the Vienna *New Free Press* the Turkish Government will make an extraordinary levy of 100,000 men in the Spring, Egypt sending in addition 22,000, and Tunis 8,000; that A. A. Moriet & Co. of London, Eng., had failed for $560,000; that steps have been taken to protect German interests in the inquiries going on in England into the loss of the Deutschland; and that China will not send an Embassy to England until next Summer.........It was reported that on Dec. 10 Floyd Northrup accidentally shot himself fatally at Mount Salem, N. J........Commodore Vanderbilt was stated to have donated an additional $100,000 to the Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., which makes $700,000 in all.....Losses by fire: the Riverside Hotel, Hoog & Goodlander's block, and other buildings, at Milton, Pa.—loss $100,000, partially insured; Vantuyl & Co.'s lampblack manufactory, this city—loss $25,000, insured for $10,000; Mrs. Chandler's and J. P. Huntington's dwellings, Barre, Vt.—loss $3,000.

*** Dec. 14: In the House of Representatives a resolution was presented calling for information concerning the removal of ex-Senator Henderson as public prosecutor of the St. Louis whiskey ring......Mr. McMillan, by a vote of 30 to 28, was permitted to withdraw his credentials in the U. S. Senate......Mayor Cobb was re-elected in Boston, Mass........The question of consolidating the four Civil Courts of this city into one, to be called the Supreme Court of the First District, was considered at a meeting of the Bar Association..... The Wheeler & Wilson Sewing-machine Company lost about $500,000 (insured for $316,000), and the Sewing-machine Cabinet Company about $100,000, by the destruction of the old buildings owned by the former and mainly occupied by the latter, at Bridgeport, Ct. Two lads were killed and a number of persons hurt by falling walls......Cable telegrams stated that, in the case of the Deutschland disaster, the coroner's jury at Harwich, Eng., rendered a verdict to the effect that the deaths were caused by exposure, and the wreck was caused by the captain losing his reckoning, owing to the state of the weather, no criminality being charged; that four of the passengers of the steamer Mosel were known to have been killed and ten wounded by the explosion at Bremerhaven, while six were missing; that the man Thomas, who is supposed to have owned the case of dynamite, is an American, and he was said to have confessed his intention of destroying the Mosel at sea, for the sake of securing insurance money; that the Austrian Ambassador had asked the Porte to suspend hostilities and open negotiations in Herzegovina; that the French Geographical Society had elected Gen. A. A. Humphreys, Chief of the United States Engineer Corps, corresponding member; and that Mr. Rendell was appointed Secretary of the British Centennial Commission. ..... The body of an unknown young woman, supposed to have been murdered on the 12th inst., was found in a cornfield in East New York, L. I..... The Indianapolis (Ind.) Brass and Supply Company failed; liabilities, $120,000; assets, $80,000.....Losses by fire: the Erie Railway depot, the Patbee House, and other buildings, at Avon, N. Y.—loss about $35,000; Mueller's grist-mill, and other property, Freedom, Pa.—loss $12,000, insured for about $4,000; A. Melcher's boot and shoe store, Lewiston, Me.—loss $2,500, insured; J. H. Webster's dwelling and the W. U. Telegraph office, Norridgewock, Me.—loss $8,000, uninsured.

*** Dec. 15: Cable dispatches announced that William K. Thompson, alias Thomassen, had made a full confession of his intention to destroy the Mosel with the dynamite which was exploded by accident at Bremerhaven, and had repeatedly attempted to end his life by tearing the bandages from the wound in his head; that eighteen more Republican life-senators were elected by the French Assembly; that the Archbishop of Cologne, Germany, had left that city, and was not expected to return; that 200 English troops and police had attacked and routed a much larger force of Malays near the Perak residency, with a loss of about seventy killed and wounded; that Capt. Cameron's exploring party arrived at St. Paul de Loando, Africa, Nov. 19, having traversed the country from Ujiji; that the British Board of Trade had ordered an investigation into the loss of the Deutschland, to begin Dec. 20......In the U. S. House of Representatives resolutions of economy in appropriation and against subsidies, as also against a Presidential third term, were adopted by overwhelming majorities...... The Commission on the Municipal Government, appointed by Gov. Tilden, met in this city, Wm. M. Evarts being chosen president........The new "Old South Church," Boston, Mass., erected at a cost of over $700,000, was dedicated.....The body of the girl found murdered in East New York was identified as that of Miss Sarah Alexander, aged about 18, who disappeared from her home in this city Dec. 12. P. Nathan Rubinstein, her cousin, was arrested on suspicion of having seduced and murdered her......In this city Edward Tucker of New Jersey was sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment for stealing $4..... Mrs. Brockhead, mother of Dr. Brockhead, was perhaps fatally injured by being run over by a wagon at Newport, R. I......Waldo Stevens, a teamster, hanged himself to a tree in Worcester, Mass......The ship Helen Morris of Boston, Mass., was reported burned at sea ..... Losses by fire: Seven business houses at Clam Lake, Mich.—loss $30,000, one-half insured; George Gordon's grist mill, Cheshire, Mass.—loss $10,000, partially insured; E. R. Ester & Son and others, in this city—loss $4,700, covered by insurance. ....Over 800 destitute men surrounded City Hall, Montreal, Canada, and called loudly for the Mayor, who promised to ask the Council to do all that is possible to provide work for them...... Miss Ellen Hathaway, aged 19, committed suicide by shooting in Brooklyn, L. I.

*** Dec. 16: In a duel fought at Sand Bar Ferry, S. C., C. D. Tilley was shot and seriously wounded by George E. Ratcliffe......David Robbins was hanged at Digby, N. S., for the murder of his wife......Judge Donohue of this city granted a stay of proceedings in the case of John Dolan, sentenced to be hanged on the 17th inst......News from abroad was to the effect that William K. Thompson died at Bremerhaven from his self-inflicted injuries, having previously stated that he was born in Brooklyn, L. I., and during the late Civil War was engaged in blockade running; that 110 lives were lost by an explosion of fire-damp in a coal-mine near Mons, Belgium; that, in obedience to the demand of Great Britain, Egypt will recall her men-of-war from the territory of Zanzibar, South Africa, and the Abyssinian expedition will confine itself to exacting satisfaction; that Captain Allen Young is to go to Smith's Sound next year, to communicate with the Arctic expedition; that five members of the Left in the French Assembly were chosen life-senators; that the new taxes and increased army estimates proposed by the Government were rejected by the German Reichstag; that the Italian bark Chito Gattorno, from New York for Queenstown, was lost at sea, the crew being saved; and that Jean Baptiste Dumas and Jules Simon were elected to fill the vacancies in the French Academy caused by the deaths of M. Guizot and Count Charles de Remusat..... John Barr, aged 56, was killed by falling from the third story of a new building in this city......George Goodwell was stabbed to death by his brother Henry near Yorkville, Ontario......The jury in the case of Thomas W. Piper, charged with the murder of little Mabel Young, in Boston, Mass., disagreed, and he was remanded for a new trial..... In the Curley case, at Norristown, Pa., a verdict of murder in the first degree was rendered......The failure of Ewen, Pendleton & Co., wholesale druggists of Nashville, Tenn., was announced—liabilities, $75,000. ....A nugget of coarse gold, weighing 27 ounces, was reported to have been brought from the Black Hills to Cheyenne, W. T., by Frank George.... William Green (colored) of Pittsburg, Pa., was found guilty of murder in the first degree, in having killed his stepbrother, Samuel Marshall......Losses by fire: Hotchkiss & Barber's planing-mill and adjoining lumber-yards, at Williamsport, Pa.—loss $60,000, insured for $30,000; James P. Gould's planing-mill and the Grant House, Oshkosh, Wis.—loss $30,000, insurance $8,000; the Ewen House, Hawley, Pa.—loss $6,000, insured for $3,500; the hotel and depot, east end of Hoosac Tunnel, North Adams, Mass.—loss $6,000......Mrs. Emil King hung herself at Albany, N. Y......Francis Tuttle of Stow, Mass., accidentally shot himself fatally while fox-hunting..... Joseph Sorene was drowned off Race Point......Capt. A. Fraser of the schooner Olive A. Lewis was lost overboard on the New England coast..... Mrs. John Role was shot and seriously wounded by Fred Yogel—accidentally, it is claimed—near Hackensack, N. J.

*** Dec. 17: The negroes William Ellis, William Thompson and Charles Weston were hanged in this city for the murder of the Jewish peddler Abraham Weisberg..... About 3,000 unemployed men gathered at City Hall, Montreal, Canada, demanding bread, and committing various acts of violence......Thomas Burt, accused of being engaged in numerous cases of arson and robbery, was reported to have been hanged by the Vigilance Committee at San Francisco, Cal......Mr. Chamberlain shot and killed his brother-in-law, William Hamilton, a prominent merchant of Garnet, Kansas......Martin Ritter of Flatbush, N. Y., seriously injured his wife, and then cut his throat......It was cabled that the committee of English bondholders had decided upon a plan for the reorganization of the Erie-railway Company, under the supervision of a committee, of which Gov. Tilden will be invited to act as chairman; that the Earl of Derby was installed as the rector of the University of Edinburgh; that the mutinous crew of the British ship Lennie were to be taken from France to England for trial; that the American fishing schooner Abby M. Heath had been abandoned at sea, her crew being picked up and landed at Havre, France; that the official announcement was made in London that payment on the coupons of the bonds of Peru, S. A., due Jan. 1, had been suspended, the Lima Government being unable to meet the temporary money crisis; that the Bremerhaven *Zeitung* asserted that, according to Thompson's confession, there is another explosive package on board the Salier, where one had been discovered prior to her departure; and that the report of the recall of the Egyptian expedition to Zanzibar was confirmed......Reports presented at the meeting of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers showed that during the past year 6,651 soldiers were cared for, at a total cost of only about $165 per man......C. C. Hooper, first officer of the schooner Ellen H. of St. John, N. B., and George Whiting, seaman of the schooner Joseph H. Huddell of Georgetown, D. C., were reported as lost in the gale of the 8th inst. on the New England coast.... Henry Thomassen was shot and fatally wounded by Oscar Barbic, at Georgetown, Ky..... Henry Hallenschied was executed at Hermann, Mo., for the murder of his son-in-law, Christian Alband; and the negro Nick Thompson, who murdered Capt. James H. Hunter, at Quitman, Ga., paid the death-penalty there......Mrs. Martha Ackerman, aged 53, was burned to death in this city..... Losses by fire: the steamer W. S. Pike, with a cargo of cotton, sugar and melasses, at the wharf, New Orleans, La.—loss about $160,000, insured for $68,000; the steamer Jenison, at Grand Rapids, Mich.—loss about $12,000; insured for $9,000; the large new mill of the South Sudbury (Mass.) Manufacturing Company; property at Wichita, Kansas—loss $14,000, uninsured.

*** Dec. 18: The Fifty-fourth, Seventy-sixth, Eighty-fourth and Ninety-sixth regiments of the First Division, and Battery A, Second Division, N. G. S. N. Y., were disbanded......Four of the bread-rioters at Montreal, Canada, were sentenced to six months' imprisonment each. ......The French steamer L'Amerique, for the safety of which fears were entertained, was towed into Queenstown Harbor by the Ville de Brest......Greene & Crouston, bankers, of Providence, R. I., suspended, with liabilities estimated at $675,000; assets, $800,000. J. M. Goldsmith of Boston, Mass., dealer in naval stores, failed for $123,000; assets, $30,000—$11,000 cash. ......A telegram from London, Eng., reported the loss of the brig Julia H. Dillingham, with all on board except the mate and a sailor.......Other cable dispatches announced that the Italian Committee on the Centennial Exposition have received six hundred applications for space, which will generally be occupied by works of art; that the British troops were pursuing the retreating rebels in Malacca; and that the Emperor of Brazil will leave Rio Janeiro March 26 for New York......The Cubans were reported to have burned the town of Jaquey Grande and the estate Rosario on the 10th inst....Antonio De Albero, aged 22, was struck by a railroad train at Tremont, N.Y., and fatally injured .... Losses by fire: Hogg & Ford's oatmeal mill, at Galt, Ontario—loss, $15,000; tenement-houses in Worcester, Mass.—loss about $5,000, covered by insurance; E. D. Winslow's residence, Auburndale, Mass.—loss $45,000, insurance $37,000; Lincoln & Means' lumbering mill, Washington, Me.—loss $8,000, insured for $1,000; Joseph Mellor's wholesale liquor-store, W. Broderick's broom factory, and other property, Cleveland, O.—loss $25,000, insurance $19,000; Gilman & Tuttle and others, Boston, Mass.—loss $6,000; Jack & Sowers' flouring-mill, Des Moines, Iowa—loss about $14,000, insured for $4,000.

*** Dec. 19: Foreign advices stated that, prior to leaving Southampton, Eng., for New York, the steamship Salier was thoroughly searched, but no explosives were found; that the vessel took from Southampton sixty of the passengers saved from the wreck of the Deutschland; that the British troops from Perak had retired to Blanja, there to await reinforcements before attacking Kinta, Malacca; that Gen. Moriones is to assume immediate command of the Spanish army in Guipuzcoa; that the Government had proved triumphant over those who wished to involve Japan in war or revolution; that the Japanese Government proposes to render military service compulsory upon all classes, and to train the entire male population to the use of arms; that the steamer Glengyle was lost on Namoa Island, in Chinese waters, Nov. 2, Capt. Cornell, the third officer and fourth engineer being drowned; and that the Dutch mail steamer Kron Prinz, from Singapore, India, was totally wrecked by collision with the steamer Atjeh......The mercury fell to 38 degrees below zero at Mount Washington, 20 at different points in New Hampshire, and 10 at Buffalo, N. Y......Losses by fire: the Congregational Church at Norway, Me.—loss $12,000, partially insured; the composing room of *The* (Buffalo, N. Y.) *Morning Express*—loss $10,000, covered by insurance; John Spiess' barn, Buffalo, N. Y.—loss, $5,000, insured for $700; Mr. Cilley's unoccupied house and barn, Woburn, Mass.—loss $2,100; Dr. Gurney's stable, this city—loss $2,500......The failure of D. A. Ross & Co., lumber dealers of Detroit, Mich., was announced. Liabilities, $300,000; assets, $400,000.

*** Dec. 20: Cable dispatches announced that more than two thousand exhibitors will represent France at the Centennial Exposition; that Lawton & Head, merchants, shipping and insurance agents, London, Eng., had failed, with liabilities estimated at $960,000; and that General Moriones will inaugurate his campaign by a movement for the relief of San Sebastian and Hernani.....While attempting to run on the turn-table at Nashua, N. H., a locomotive was thrown into the pit, and the engineer, Samuel Egar, was killed......The Rice Grammar School, Boston, Mass., was partially destroyed by fire—loss $25,000; uninsured.

DEATH'S DOINGS.

Weekly Record of the Decease of Prominent Individuals.

COMPILED EXPRESSLY FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

BRADLEY, Dominick—An old-time pugilist. (See Ring)—Philadelphia, Dec. 17, aged 49.

BROWN, James W.—An old resident of Portchester, N. Y.—there, Dec. 18, aged 83.

COOKE, Captain John—Connected with the Adjutant-general's office, Albany, N. Y., at the time of his death. He had served in two of the wars in which this country has been engaged—that city, Dec. 14, aged 78.

CARTLICH, John G.—Veteran actor. (See Drama)—Philadelphia, Dec. 12.

COOK, William H.—Of the coal firm of Jabez Cook & Son, and of the shirt firm of Marley, Cook & Co. He was the son of Jabez Cook, president of the First National Bank of Newark, N. J.—that city, Dec. 14.

CLARK, Roderick—The founder of Marseilles, Ill.—there, Dec. 16, aged 69.

CHANLER, Margaret Astor—Wife of John Winthrop Chanler, and granddaughter of the late William B. Astor—this city, Dec. 13, aged about 38.

DUANE, Rev. Richard B.—Many years ago he was rector of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, Providence, R. I. Latterly he had been secretary and general agent of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Protestant Episcopal Church—Bergen Point, N. J., Dec. 12, aged 52.

EDDY, Owen M.—Swamp-land Commissioner of Indiana, having received his appointment in 1873. He was a son of the late Norman J. Eddy, Secretary of State for Indiana in 1870, and was himself a candidate for that office, on the Democratic ticket, in 1872, but defeated by a slight majority—Occidental Hotel, Indianapolis, Dec. 12.

EDDY, Edward—Actor. (See Drama)—West Indies.

HENDERSON, Rev. Isaac J.—Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Annapolis, Md.—there, Dec. 8.

HOLLAND, Thomas—Actor. (See Drama)—Indianapolis, Dec. 12.

HOWARD JR., Charles F.—Of the firm of James L. Howard & Co., manufacturers of railway supplies, Hartford, Ct.—that city, Dec. 14.

HAVEN, John A.—An old merchant of this city, where about 1829 he and his brother, J. Woodward Haven, established the house of Haven & Co. He was born in Portsmouth, N. H., graduated at Harvard University, and originally was a merchant in Boston, Mass.—this city, Dec. 13, aged 84.

JONES, Mrs. Melinda—Actress. (See Drama)—Boston, Dec. 12, aged about 60.

LILIENTHAL, C. Harry—Eldest son of Charles H. Lilienthal, well-known tobacconist of this city—Yonkers, N. Y., Dec. 17.

MARTENSE, Lefferts—Son of the late Judge Gerrit L. Martense—Flatbush, L. I., Dec. 15, aged 59.

NEGUS, Mrs. Adeline—Widow of a son of the late Dr. Negus of Webster, Mass. Committed suicide while insane—Providence, R. I., Dec. 15.

O'CONOR, Sister Georgiana—Of the Order of Sisters of Charity—St. Mary's Hospital, Hoboken, N. J., Dec. 11.

PATTERSON, Major John W.—A civil engineer by profession, and engineer of the Southside borough, Pittsburg, Pa., until the outbreak of the late war, in which he served first as captain of the Sixty-second (Pa.) Regiment, and afterwards as major. He was for several years Alderman for the Twenty-fifth Ward—Pittsburg, Dec. 12, aged 56.

PIERSON, Joseph T.—A detective for the past twenty years, and latterly of the firm of Smith, Pierson & West, independent detectives, Philadelphia, Pa.—Baltimore, Md., Dec. 18, aged 55.

RICH, Hon. Thomas P.—Formerly a member of the Massachusetts State Senate—Boston, Dec. 11.

RHINEHARDT, Henry—Of the firm of Rhinehardt, Muller & Howes, proprietors of the Park Brewery, Stapleton, S. I.—there, Dec. 13, aged 33.

RICHMAN, Moses—President of the Liquor Dealers' Association of Haverstraw, N. Y. Found drowned in a cistern in rear of his saloon, and supposed to have fallen in—Dec. 13.

RIKER, Mrs. Lavinia—Widow of John L. Riker of Bowery Bay, L. I.—Astoria, L. I., Dec. 15, aged 79.

SMITH, Rev. P. A.—Pastor of St. Mary's Church, Norwalk, Ct.—there, Dec. 16, aged 46.

SHERWOOD, Charles E.—Equestrian and general performer, and familiar to the public for his change-act entitled "Pete Jenkins" (See Circus)—Pittsburg, Pa.

SAMSON, Capt. George N.—Of the ship Jacob A. Stemler—at sea, Oct. 30, aged 58.

THAYER, Benjamin W.—(See Drama)—Boston, Mass., Dec. 17, aged 61.

WINSLOW, Miss Annie S.—(See Drama)—Boston, Mass., Dec. 13.

AMERICAN RACKETS.

THE PRACTICE GAME FOR BASEBALL PLAYERS.

In the search for a Winter exercise for baseball-players who desire to keep themselves in training, we found the old game of "fives"—called handball in this country—a capital exercise for active field movements, and for educating the sight in picking up low, swift balls. But experience has shown that it has one objectionable feature for a baseball-player, and that is the soreness of the hands which it causes. Generally, the men who most excel in handball are large-handed ones, whose daily occupation makes their hands as hard and tough as a hide; but for the general class of people who practice ball-playing the sport is too severe in its injurious effects on the hands, and hence it fails to fully answer the purpose sought for in a Winter practice game for professional baseball-players. One would suppose that a baseball-player accustomed to catch balls from fielders while at first base, or to hold them from the pitcher while behind the bat, would be indifferent to using his hands for a bat, as in handball; but experience shows that the latter practice is as hard again on a player's hands as any work he is called upon to do in baseball, as either catcher or first-baseman. The larger baseball is easier to hold and less painful to stop than the smaller one used in handball, the latter bearing very hard on the centre of the palms, so much so as to make them painful and sore in a short game, unless the player has a remarkably large and heavy hand and a tough, thick skin on the palms. In the place of handball, however, a very desirable substitute has been found in the game of American rackets, which differs only from the regular rackets—long in vogue in English sporting circles—in the smaller size of the bat and in its being made entirely of wood, and in the larger size of the ball. An advantage, too, possessed by rackets over handball, in its adaptability to the purpose of Winter practice and training for baseball-players, is that, besides presenting an excellent school for fielding practice, it affords the very best training of the hand and eye for batting purposes. What with the great agility of movement in running forwards and backwards to reach the ball, and in jumping up and stooping low to get at it, a degree of sharp practice in fielding is arrived at which cannot fail to improve in every baseball player who plays rackets. Then, too, the use of the small bat in training the eye to watch the comparatively little ball, and in practicing the arm to handle the bat in striking at it high and low and on each side, a degree of efficiency is arrived at which must naturally assist the baseball-player in a more skillful use of the larger bat and ball in his own game. Besides these advantages, the exercise in rackets is such as to bring into active use every muscle of the body; and that, too, without any injurious strain on any particular portion of the muscular system, the game training him to endurance in fielding to a greater extent than any other exercise he can indulge in off the ball-field. To him it is far more recreative and beneficial than gymnastic exercise; though that, of course, is necessary to a limited extent. As a recreation of itself, it possesses many features to recommend it to the young—and middle-age men, too—of sedentary habits. It does not take much time, it is very exciting, and is well calculated to drive away dyspepsia.

HOW THE GAME IS PLAYED.

The materials are simply a small wooden bat, in shape like a large spoon, only flat, and a small, elastic ball of about an inch and a half in diameter. Of course a racket court is essential, and these places are now springing up in all our large cities as fast as the game becomes popular. A good court is that of Barney McQuade, located in Madison street, near Grand. It is complete in nearly every respect, and a new and very handsome court is in progress of erection on Twenty-sixth street.

The game is played either by two or four contestants—the latter is the livelier game. When played by two persons, one stands within the lines of the "inner court," and "serves" the ball for the player standing in the "outer court." "Serving" the ball consists of hitting it with the bat so that it rebounds from the end-wall of the court beyond the line which divides the inner from the outer portion. When this is done it becomes the object of the player in the outer court to bat the ball, on its *first* rebound, so as to return it to the end wall of the court before it touches the floor—touching the side-walls of the court is immaterial, so that the ball first touches the end-wall before it reaches the floor. The effort to keep the ball in motion, rebounding from the end-wall, is then kept up by both players until one or the other fails to bat the ball—in returning it—to the end-wall, in which case, if it be the player "serving" the ball from the inner court, he "loses his hand," and thereby takes up his position in the outer court. If it be the player in the outer court who fails to return the ball to the end-wall, then his opponent scores an "ace," or one point in the game. This goes on until one party or the other scores 21 aces, which ends the game. A match at rackets consists of best two out of three games, best three out of five, or best four out of seven.

MATCHES THIS WEEK.

On Tuesday our reporter visited McQuade's Racket Court, and there found some well-known baseball-players at practice. A match had been played, in which Hicks of the Mutual Club had taken a prominent part, and afterwards a match for practice was made up between Theodore Bomeisler—a very active player—and Barney McQuade. In this, Bomeisler won the first game very neatly by a score of 21 to 15, but the next two games Barney won, after a very close and exciting contest, by an ace only in both games, the score standing at 21 to 20 each time.

A GRAND MATCH AT M'QUADE'S.

On Thursday, Dec. 16, McQuade's Court was crowded to excess, the occasion being the return series of games between Arthur McQuade of this city and Morris Moore of Philadelphia, the first of which, played the previous week in Philadelphia, had resulted in Moore's winning four games to McQuade's three. This left Moore but four to get to win the match, while McQuade had five to get to win. The contest was looked forward to with interest, as there is quite a rivalry between the two players.

Play was called by John Lenahan as referee at 1.50 P. M., at which time McQuade took his stand to serve the ball, and before he stopped he had scored four aces. Then Moore began work, and it was soon "up sticks at four," and before the positions were changed it stood at 10 to 4 in Moore's favor. McQuade rallied a little, and pulled up to 9; but he could get no farther, as, by masterly play in serving and returning, Moore came in victor by 21 to 9, the game occupying twenty minutes. McQuade's 9 was obtained by 5 aces on returns, and 4 on serving, Moore scoring 13 by returns and 8 by serving.

In the second game the play was close in the early part of the contest, "up stakes at 4" and also at 6 being called; but afterward Moore, in order to get his wind, allowed his adversary to run up to 20, and then he played a beautiful up-hill game, and by splendid play, in both serving and returning, but chiefly by his sharp returns, actually ran the game out before McQuade could get the required ace to win. This game occupied twenty-five minutes, and it was the feature of the match. On excellent returns McQuade scored 14 aces, 6 by direct serving. Moore scored 13 by returns and 8 by serving, sending McQuade some very difficult balls to attend to.

By this time Moore's pace began to tell on him, and in his third game he again played for wind, thereby letting Arthur pull up his score to winning figures. Moore evidently being too confident of his ability to win the match in his own way and time. The play was close up to the first half, up sticks at 10 being called, some lively work being done by both players. But now it was that McQuade's better condition told in his favor; besides which, he had the best of his opponent in control of temper, and in nerve, as also in judgment in playing points. The third game ended in McQuade's favor by a score of 21 to 13, occupying but fifteen minutes, McQuade running the game out easily after 13. The score of returns was 13 to 10, and of serving 8 to 3 in McQuade's favor.

In the fourth game Moore rallied in brilliant style, and, as McQuade also played up to a high mark, the fight was close all the way through, up-sticks being the call several times. But Moore proved to be too strong, and he came in victor by 21 to 20, after a game of twenty-two minutes' duration. McQuade showed up the better in serving 8 aces to 5, but in returning Moore had the advantage by a score of 16 to 13. In one rally eight returns were made before a rest occurred. This told worst on Moore; besides which, his forcible returns, in which he failed to save his right hand, as he might have done, began to damage his prospects of final success. In fact, he wasted his strength unnecessarily in this respect, while Arthur nursed his, and thereby saved his wind and his hands for the final struggle. The bitterness of rivalry between the two was frequently exhibited, and, when it was, McQuade, in the chaffing and taunting business—something it would be better to leave out in future—invariably had the best of it from his superior control of temper.

The match had now proceeded to a point when it became decidedly interesting to the spectators, as well as to the contestants and their friends, inasmuch as Moore had now won seven of the fifteen games comprising the full match, and McQuade had won but four, the latter having to get four in succession to escape defeat, while Moore had only to score one more to win the match. It was large odds to fight against, but McQuade's nerve and pluck showed up well for the occasion, and he began his up-hill task with the confidence of a man who had but just commenced to play.

In the fifth game the fight was close up to first half, though McQuade had the lead from the start; but in the latter part Moore again fell off in his play, the result being McQuade's success, 21 to 11, in a game of eighteen minutes' duration. McQuade scored 16 aces by his returns and 5 by his serving, Moore scoring 9 and 2 respectively.

The sixth game was a one-sided contest, McQuade running out in ten minutes, and winning by 21 to 2, Moore's hand failing him. He tried a glove, but it did not avail him much. In fact, it was now seen that the match would be won by McQuade, as it finally was; for, though Moore tried to rally, every ball he handled told on him. He made several pretty left-handed returns, but it was like playing the odds of one hand against two, and at 4 P. M. the match terminated in McQuade's favor, he winning the last four games in succession.

The play in this contest was such as to show Moore to be the better man in skillful handling of the ball; but in playing the "points" of a match encounter he did not equal McQuade in either judgment or nerve, and especially was he lacking in that essential element of success in games of this kind—control of temper. The full score is appended:

Game		Serving	Returns	Total	Time	[illegible]	Moore's to aces
1	McQuade	5	4	9	20m.	9	21
	Moore	8	13	21			
2	McQuade	6	14	20	25m.	20	21
	Moore	8	13	21			
3	McQuade	8	13	21	15m.	21	13
	Moore	3	10	13			
4	McQuade	7	13	20	25m.	20	21
	Moore	3	18	21			
5	McQuade	5	16	21	10m.	21	10
	Moore	2	9	11			
6	McQuade	4	17	21	15m.	21	2
	Moore	0	2	2			
7	McQuade	6	15	21	15m.	21	6
	Moore	2	4	6			
8	McQuade	15	6	21	15m.	21	5
	Moore	2	3	5			
	Totals	84	170	254	1.45	154	119

MANNING vs. McQUADE.

On Dec. 17 the first series of a match at American rackets—best six in eleven—between the champion player, Oscar Manning of Philadelphia, and Barney McQuade of New York, took place at McQuade's court, in this city, in presence of an assemblage of spectators which crowded the seats; considerable interest being manifested in the match, as it was the first important contest at the game in this city. Manning came on from the Quaker City on Thursday, and witnessed the McQuade and Moore match at handball, and on Friday he put in an appearance in excellent form for play, and, as Barney had been getting his hand in well in practice games with Bomeisler, Moore and others, both contestants entered the court well prepared to acquit themselves creditably. After arranging the preliminaries and selecting Messrs. Moore and Barry for umpires, and Mr. Doyle as referee, the players tossed up for the lead, and, Manning winning, he took his stand to serve the ball. At 2.20 P. M. the first game began.

THE PLAY.

Manning led off with a good ball, which was well returned; and, after some sharp play, lost his hand on a pretty return by Barney, who in his first inning scored an ace on his serving. Then both lost hands, and in Barney's third inning he scored a couple of aces by sharp serving, Oscar again losing his hand. In the fourth inning Oscar scored two aces on handsome returns, but in the fifth Barney offset these with a couple obtained by a return and on serving. From this time out the contest was close. Barney still maintaining his lead. In the 24th inning Oscar rallied handsomely for four aces, and it was thought that he would run the game out, the score at the time standing at 19 to 17 in his favor; Barney, however, scored a couple of aces in his 25th inning on sharp, low returns, after Oscar had lost his hand on a missed ball, and in his 29th inning served a difficult ball which Oscar failed to return, and that ended the game, the score being 21 to 19 in McQuade's favor. Manning scored but 4 aces in serving, and 15 on excellent returns, his sharp, straight cuts from the left side being especially noteworthy; his grace of movement and exceeding activity also attracting attention. Barney also played a fine game, scoring 9 aces by difficult service and 12 by good returns.

In the second game McQuade led off, but soon lost his hand, and this he did five times in succession, Oscar, in the interim, scoring four aces. In the 6th inning Barney rallied for three aces, and then it was nip-and-tuck, each losing three successive hands, the play being sharp and active, and up to the highest mark in the returns. In the 12th inning Oscar made a fine spurt and scored five aces by sharp returns and effective service. This lead Barney failed to overcome, and, as his adversary added 7 aces in his 15th inning, the lead thereby obtained insured the game, and in his 19th inning Manning scored the necessary 21, McQuade having marked up only 9. Manning's score of returns was 16 to 5 in his favor, while in service the score stood at 5 to 4. By this time a feature of the contest had developed itself to a marked extent, and that was the manly conduct of the contestants, one to the other, Manning's courtesy and thoroughly fair-and-square play winning him high commendation, and Barney was not behind him in responding to the example offered. In fact, as regards the deportment of the contestants, it was a model display of the amenities which should characterize all contests between able and manly opponents.

In the third game Manning secured an advantageous lead in the second inning, and in the latter part of it handled his bat in so masterly a manner as to make his victory an easy one, McQuade scoring but three aces in his last twelve innings, Oscar winning by 21 to 10 after twenty minutes' play. The score of returns was 14 to 5 in Manning's favor, and that of service stood at 7 to 5.

The fourth game was now regarded with special interest, as it was Barney's turn to do something if he intended to keep Oscar from leaving the city ahead in the score. He started on a winning lead, scoring five aces in the second inning, and this advantage Oscar tried in vain to overcome, though he was rallying well for it, it being "up sticks at 16." At this time his bat broke, and afterwards Barney went up in scoring, and, in his 22d inning, ran the game out with six aces, scored chiefly by handsome returns. This left the score at two games for each side, and the battle for supremacy in a decidedly interesting position. The contest had now occupied an hour and a half, and both felt the effects of their rather severe work, Barney showing up in better form, in the way of endurance, than Oscar did. In the fourth game Barney had the best of it, in both service and returns, his score in the former standing at 7 to 4, and in the latter at 14 to 13. This was the longest game of the series, occupying half an hour.

The fifth game lasted but seventeen minutes, Manning rallying in brilliant style at the close. It was "up sticks" at 1, 2, 5 and 9; but in his ninth inning he scored ten aces in masterly style, and in his 12th ran the game out to the tune of 21 to 9. His score of returns in this game was 16 to 6, and of service 5 to 3. It was now getting towards dark, and it was with difficulty that the judges could see the ball. The players did, however, and the play was continued, the sixth game being commenced at 4.15 P. M. McQuade led off in scoring the first ace, and at the close of his seventh inning he had scored 8 aces to Manning's 3. An appeal was made to the umpires in reference to a draw on account of darkness, but the proposition was not entertained, and the play was proceeded with. Apparently, at this time McQuade had the best of it in regard to keenness of sight, for Oscar lost several hands on apparently easy returns, and finally played just to finish the game as quickly as possible, Barney winning with ease by 21 to 6, his score of returns being 19 to 2, and of service 4 to 2. This left the match, as far as played, at three games to three, the position being very favorable for a close and exciting contest in Philadelphia, on the occasion of playing the closing five games of the match.

A summary of the six games played gives the appended score:

Game		Serving	Returns	Tot'l Aces	Hands Lost	Time	Manning	McQuade	Misses
1	Manning	4	15	19	16	25m.	19	21	2
	McQuade	9	12	21	16				1
2	Manning	5	16	21	11	20m	21	9	0
	McQuade	4	5	9	12				2
3	Manning	7	14	21	15	20m.	21	10	1
	McQuade	5	5	10	15				1
4	Manning	4	13	17	13	30m.	17	21	3
	McQuade	7	14	21	13				5
5	Manning	5	16	21	6	17m.	21	9	1
	McQuade	3	6	9	8				1
6	Manning	4	2	6	14	20m.	6	21	1
	McQuade	2	19	21	13				1
	Totals	59	137	196	152	2.12	105	91	20

JAMES CASEY vs. JAMES MCEVOY.—On Dec. 16 a match was played at Casey's Court, Brooklyn, between the above well-known handball players, and the contest proved to be quite interesting. The result was Casey's success, as will be seen by the appended score:

First game—Casey	21	First game—McEvoy	18
Second game—Casey	17	Second game—McEvoy	21
Third game—Casey	21	Third game—McEvoy	16
Fourth game—Casey	21	Fourth game—McEvoy	10
Total	80	Total	65

ON DEC. 18 a lively little bout occurred at McQuade's, in a four-handed game of American rackets, in which Manning and Moore represented Philadelphia, and Barney McQuade and John Lanahan played on behalf of New York. Moore's arm was not in condition, and, therefore, the New Yorkers had the best of it, as will be seen by the appended score:

	Philadelphia.	New York.
First game	19	21
Second game	21	16
Third game	21	20
Fourth game	13	21
Fifth game	18	21
Totals	92	99

CURLING.

The Executive Committee of the National Curling Convention have decided that the match between the North and South shall take place at Prospect Park, Brooklyn, on the 4th of January, or the first good day thereafter, weather and ice permitting. The match for the Gordon medal will be played at Central Park, New York, on January 11, or the first fine day thereafter. J. L. Hamilton, president of the National Curling Club, will act as umpire. The match between New York and New Jersey will come off at Paterson, N. J., on Tuesday, January 18. There will be ten rinks and forty players a side. The Jersey City Club is matched against the Caledonian Club of New York, and the New York Thistle Club will act as umpire. The consideration of the international match between the United States and Canada was laid over till the meeting in June.

A BICYCLE RACE, ten miles, for £20, took place on the Trent-bridge Grounds, Nottingham, Eng., Nov. 27, between S. Ramson and H. Higham. The former won by over fifty yards in a trifle over 36 minutes.

HANDBALL.

SPORT AT McQUADE'S COURT.

On Tuesday, Dec. 14, the match announced in last week's CLIPPER took place at McQuade's Court, this city, and it proved to be one of the best matches of the season, some very fine play being shown on both sides. The day was rather cold, and it was, therefore, a little hard upon the hands of the players until they got warmed up to their work; but they faced the music pluckily, and fought for the honors of victory very creditably. The match was made to include Messrs. Kirby and Mahoney against Dore and Barry, but neither Mahoney nor Barry was able to be on time, and Messrs. Keating and Lanahan were substituted. The match was best three in five, for a wine supper, and at 2:25 P. M. Messrs. Kirby and Keating took their places and began play, Dore and Lanahan having the "out hand." Kirby began scoring, but soon lost his hand, as did Keating, and then Dore began giving the out-hands some troublesome balls to return. It was not long before the latter and his partner had a leading position, and the first game ended in their favor by 21 to 8. On Dore's serving, 14 were scored, and 7 on that of Lanahan, while Kirby was credited with 5 and Keating with 3. In the second game, Keating and Lanahan each "served" with marked effect, but the latter had the best of it, and the result was another victory for Dore and his partner. In this game Lanahan scored 15 on his "serving," and Dore 6; Keating scoring 11 and Kirby 5, the score standing at 21 to 16. In the third game Kirby got to work in earnest, and, being ably assisted by Keating, they scored their first game, the figures being 21 to 15. Of this number Kirby was credited with 13 and Keating with 8, Lanahan also scoring 13, but Dore only secured 2. The fourth game was very closely contested, the result being, as before, a victory for Kirby and his partner by a score of 21 to 18, of which Kirby obtained 12 and Keating 9, Dore playing finely for 14, while Lanahan only scored 4. Each party had now won two games, and the next game was watched with interest, as the match depended on the result. In this Dore played with marked skill, in both serving and returning, his picking-up of long, low balls in the outer court being noteworthy. Lanahan also backed up his partner well, and the result was their success by 21 to 10. Dore scored 13 on his "serving" in this game, and Lanahan 8, Keating getting 8, and Kirby but 2. The summary:

Game.	Dore.	Lanahan.	Kirby.	Keating.
1st	14	7—21	5	3—8
2d	6	15—21	5	11—16
3d	2	13—15	13	8—21
4th	14	4—18	12	9—21
5th	13	8—21	2	8—10
Totals	49	47—96	37	39—76

Mr. McConnell acted as referee, and Mr. Kelly as marker. The time of playing the match was one hour and ten minutes.

ON DEC. 18 Casey's Court was the scene of a lively encounter between P. McCarthy and A. Cassidy on the one side, and J. Holt and J. Mack on the other, in which the former won three out of the five games constituting the match. The score was as follows:

	McCarthy and Cassidy.	Holt and Mack.
First game	21	18
Second game	16	21
Third game	21	13
Fourth game	15	21
Fifth game	21	20
Totals	94	93

It will be seen that the contest was close and exciting.

AT MCQUADE'S COURT, in this city, on Dec. 18, P. Murphy and G. Hanly played a match of best four in seven games, with the appended rather one-sided result:

	Murphy.	Hanly.
First game	21	17
Second game	21	16
Third game	21	11
Fourth game	21	19
Totals	84	63

There is to be plenty of sport at McQuade's on Christmas-day.

THE RING.

THE CHAMBERS TESTIMONIAL.

Arthur Chambers' complimentary benefit at Concert Hall, Philadelphia, on the 17th inst., was a flattering ovation, the large hall being crowded by a highly respectable and orderly assemblage. Frank Gormley officiated as master of ceremonies, and ably performed the onerous duties of his position. An excellent variety entertainment served as the prelude to the sparring, which was participated in by the following couples: Peters and McCuen, Mahoney and Gallagher, Lew Chambers, and Harry Hicken, Barker and Weeden, Joe Holland and "Spring Dick," and the wind-up between Arthur Chambers and Billy Edwards. Prior to the wind-up the event of the evening took place—the presentation of the champion belt—Wm. Faldon, the well-known sportsman, delivering a very neat presentation-speech, and Chambers responding by thanking those present for the ovation tendered him, which he would always remember as "one of the happiest moments of his life," and assuring all that he would never forget the kindness that has been shown him during his sojourn in Philadelphia. The champion belt is profusely ornamented, and is one of the most elaborate and expensive ever presented to any pugilist, the entire cost being between $600 and $800. It is thus described: "The belt is a massive piece of silver; height, 4½in.; length, 35in. The inscription clasps in front, in a laurel wreath of gold, exquisitely chased, and surrounded by ornamental engraving, and reads as follows: Light-weight Champion Belt of the World at 120lb, presented to Mr. Arthur Chambers, Dec. 17, 1875, at Concert Hall, Philadelphia, by his many friends and admirers, in recognition of his sterling merits as a pugilist, his unswerving fidelity to his backers, and uniform good conduct in private life. On either side of the inscription are fighting gladiators, in costume and attitude, raised from the ground-work of the belt, in chased silver, and surrounded by elaborate ornamental engraving. The back piece is emblematical, consisting of the Goddess of Liberty, with sword and shield, in chased silver, raised. On either side of the Goddess are large eagles, elaborately chased in gold, and raised from the ground-work, the whole being profusely decorated with ornamental engraving. The border is appropriate and handsome; on the top and bottom edges it consists of a leaf, dotted, while inside the belt, above and below, there is another border of dagger-points, with dots and ornamentation. There are three hinges to the belt, two between the gladiators and back piece, and the third on the right side, connecting the gladiator with the inscription. Between the hinges are heavy plaits, which are inside of upright bars, forming a representation of ropes and stakes."

Previous to the sparring, Fred J. Mackley sang several character songs, Johnny Clark and Mike Gillespie danced a double-clog, James Harrison went through the Indian-club exercise, Jesse De Silver performed on the slack-wire, Ventini and Fox appeared in a brother act, Mr. Tennyson gave his old-negro specialties, Jimmy Smith performed a solo on the bones, and Messrs. Loder, Wilson, Davenport and Ed. Banker vocalized.

FLYNN vs. MULLIGAN.

Frank Flynn of Worcester, Mass., sends to us, under date of Dec. 14, the following communication, embodying a challenge to a party with whom he had a "condemned diffikilty" some time ago:

EDITOR NEW YORK CLIPPER.—*Dear Sir:* On October 1 I last I sent for publication in *Bell's Life* a challenge to fight Tom Mulligan of Edinburgh, Scotland, together with articles of agreement and a deposit of £50. To correct the mistake I made in making the order payable at 170 East Strand, I wrote on October 2 to *Bell's Life* office, and afterwards to the G. P. O., London, yet in any of the copies of that journal to hand no mention is made of my challenge, nor have I received a reply from the G. P. O. But to the point. I will fight Mulligan a fair stand-up fight, for any amount of money that he can find. I will give him expenses to fight in this country, or I will go to Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, at my own expense, and fight him there. To back what I say I deposit $100. This challenge will remain open until March 10, 1876. Mr. Mulligan is well aware that when two of the six months for which we were bound to keep the peace had elapsed, I offered him, in the presence of his own friend, to put up money there and then for a fight, and the reply I received was that he threatened one of the gentlemen who were my bondsmen with the forfeiture of his money. Should Mr. M. disprove this statement, I will pay $50 to any charitable institution he will name. I afterwards sent for insertion in *Bell's Life* a challenge intended for Mr. Mulligan, but the editor would not insert it, even as a paid advertisement. To prove this, I inclose a document which I received from *Bell's Life*. A deposit to THE CLIPPER office, and articles to me, at No. 26 Temple street, Worcester, Mass., will receive prompt attention.
Yours, respectfully, FRANK FLYNN.

DEATH OF DOMINICK BRADLEY.—Another of the old school of boxers has gone from among us. Dominick Bradley, who a score of years ago figured prominently in P. R. circles, expired at his residence in Philadelphia on Friday, Dec. 17. Deceased appeared but twice in the ring as a principal, his first encounter being with Hugh Sloan, whom he defeated in 12 rounds, occupying 21 minutes, at Phœnixville, Pa., for $600, Dec. 1, 1853. For this violation of law he was arrested and sentenced to prison for a brief period Feb. 3, 1854. His next opponent was Samuel S. Rankin also of the Quaker City, and was for the then large stake of $2,000. The battle took place at Point Abino, Canada, Aug. 1, 1857, when Bradley again proved triumphant, after fighting 152 rounds in 2 hours and 58 minutes. After this conquest Bradley announced his final retirement from the ring, and thereafter lived quietly in Philadelphia, where he followed the business of a saloon-keeper, being at the period of his demise proprietor of a tavern in South street, between Front and Second. He was born in County Derry, Ireland, Feb. 12, 1826, stood 6ft. 1in. in height, and weighed 194lb.

JIM MACE took a benefit—announced as his farewell, prior to his early departure for America—at Cambridge Hall, London, Eng., Tuesday evening, Nov. 30. The entertainment comprised boxing by professionals and amateurs, wrestling, fencing and single-stick by Life Guardsmen, cavalry-sword exercise, etc., and was concluded with a spar between Mace and his thrice opponent in the ring, Joe Goss. The hall was packed, and when Mace appeared a tumult of applause greeted him. Taken altogether, it is described as one of the best assaults-at-arms ever witnessed in England.

MIKE DONOVAN, a clever middle-weight of the Quaker City, has been tendered a complimentary benefit, to take place Thursday evening, Dec. 23, at Noonan's Varieties, Ninth and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia. Arthur Chambers, "Spring Dick" Goodwin, Mike Clary, Lew Chambers, Joe Holland, and Weeden and Walker are announced to set-to, the wind-up being between Mike Donovan and his old ring-opponent Jem Murray. A variety entertainment will also be given, and, as the beneficiary has always been well-behaved and obliging, he deserves a large attendance.

STEVE TAYLOR'S EXHIBITION occurs at Harry Hill's on Thursday afternoon, Dec. 23, and as, aside from the long list of prominent boxers whose names adorn the "bill of the play," the affair is expected to be productive of considerable excitement regarding the proposed match between the beneficiary and the pride of pugilistic Brooklyn, Johnny Dwyer, a big turnout of milleristes and their admirers is looked for. A feature of the show will be a female-minstrel scene, and for the wind-up we are to have a display of science between Taylor and Joe Coburn.

WEEDEN AND WALKER, who had a mill recently near Philadelphia, were complimented by a large attendance on the 16th inst. at their complimentary benefit at the Grand Central Theatre, in that city. Four couples in all donned the gloves, the most noticeable sets-to being those between Harry Hicken and Lew Chambers and Weeden and Walker.

BILLY MCLEAN of pugilistic and baseball notoriety purposes opening a new saloon, corner of Arch and Juniper streets, Philadelphia, to be known as "The Umpire," the title being an appropriate one, in view of the many times he has filled that position on the ball-field.

JEMMY SHAW, who reached his sixtieth anniversary on Dec. 4, was at last accounts convalescing after a severe attack of gout, coupled with inflammation of the lungs. His son Billy is proprietor of the Albion Tavern, Lower East Smithfield, London.

THERE IS A LETTER in our care for Ned Mallahan.

JOE COBURN AND LARRY POWERS were favored with a big house upon the occasion of their exhibition at Egbert's Hall, Cohoes, N. Y., Saturday evening, Dec. 18. Aside from the wind-up between them, the feature of the entertainment was a "friendly" bout between Jerry Donovan and Paddy Ryan of Troy, in which three throws and a knockdown attested the strong bond of friendship by which the contestants were united. Coburn, who returned to the city on the 20th, desires us to return his thanks to Alderman Nolan (recently elected Coroner for a term of three years) and his brother John for kindness while he was there.

SKITTLISTS, QUOITISTS, BILLIARDISTS and lovers of good cheer generally are invited, in a card among our advertisements, to visit Cleaver's Light-house Shades, corner Putnam avenue and Downing street, Brooklyn, on Xmas. "Bill" has made great preparations for the holidays, and fun galore is guaranteed to all who give him a call.

FRANK BURNS' testimonial transpires at Harry Hill's on Thursday afternoon, Dec. 30; and as the volunteers are coming up strong, and the programme for the show embraces a variety of attractive features, the prospects are that an old-time crowd will be present on the occasion.

PADDY RYAN and Larry Powers commenced a three nights' engagement at the Olympic Theatre, Troy, N. Y., Dec. 20, appearing in the Cribb scene from "Tom and Jerry." Larry, upon the close of said engagement, will return to the metropolis.

THE TURF.

LOUISIANA JOCKEY CLUB FALL RACES.

SECOND DAY—TUESDAY, DEC. 14.

The weather continued bright and pleasant, with an increased attendance and improving track under the drying influence of the sun and wind. The opening race was the Orleans Stakes for three-year-olds, $25 each, play or pay, with $500 added by the Jockey Club, of which the second horse received $100 and the third $50. The distance was two miles, and four out of the thirteen horses entered came to the post, making the stake worth $825. These were Jennings' Verdigris, Linck's George Graham, Waddell's Pompey Pillar, and Rowell's Jennie Rowell. George Graham's easy victory in the mile-heat race on the first day caused him to be a strong favorite, selling for $100, Verdigris $55, and the field $25. Pompey Pillar cut out the running for a mile and three-quarters, when his bolt was shot, and both the favorite and Verdigris passed him. A slashing race home between the two resulted in Verdigris winning by a length in 3:49, Graham second and Pompey Pillar third. This is the second successive year that Mr. Jennings has won this stake, having carried it off last year with Balankeel.

WINNERS OF THE ORLEANS STAKES.

Year.	Winner.	Sire.	Subs.	St's.	Time.
1872.	Harrison's Belle Buckle	Brown Dick	8	2	*2:01¾, 1:59¾, 2:06
1873.	Harrison's Fred Bonnabel	King Lear.	20	7	3:46½
1874.	Jennings' Ballankeel	Asteroid	22	2	3:42
1875.	Jennings' Verdigris	Versailles	13	4	3:49

* Run as mile heats; the first heat won by Cadwallader's Florence, by Lexington.

THE MILE DASH—
for all ages, for a purse of $300, out of which $50 and $25 went to second and third horses respectively, to carry 100lb each, with three-year-olds carrying their proper weights—had seven runners, representing the various States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Texas. They were Gay's Ella Harper, Linck's George Graham, Cottrell's Puss Brodnax, Welch's Port Leonard, Brady's Mollie B., Summer's Startle, and owner's Carrie Fish. The Texan mare Ella Harper was freely supported against the field; and, after waiting on George Graham for three-quarters of a mile, she challenged him at the head of the homestretch, had him beaten half-way up, and won the race easily by two lengths in 1:47, Puss Brodnax third.

TWO-MILE HEATS.
for a purse of $600, for all ages, of which $100 went to second, had five runners—Gay's Sam Harper, Paine's Kilburn, Harrison's Falmouth, Cottrill's Colonel Nelligan, and Williams & Owing's Oxmore. The Texan horse Sam Harper was a hot favorite, selling for $225, Col. Nelligan $100, and the field $60. In the first heat Kilburn took the lead and retained it for a mile and a half, when Sam Harper challenged and passed him, and won easily by three lengths in 3:44: Kilburn second, and Falmouth, Col. Nelligan and Oxmore behind the distance-flag. It was now any odds on Sam Harper, who made the running throughout, and won easily by three lengths in 3:50. The enthusiasm and delight of the Texan turfmen at thus beating the combined stables of Louisiana, Kentucky and Tennessee in two races in one day, were vociferously expressed.

THIRD DAY—THURSDAY, DEC. 16.

Continued fine weather, good attendance, and capital racing, which commenced with a handicap hurdle race for a purse of $400; two miles over eight hurdles; second and third horses receiving $75 and $25 respectively. It was won very easily by Jackson & Co.'s Oxmore (the winner of the hurdle race on the first day, who shows a decided aptitude for his new vocation), beating Port Leonard (second), Laura (third), James H., and Duroc. Port Leonard was the favorite over any other horse, bringing $50 to $70 for the field. Time, 4:01.

MILE-AND-THREE-QUARTER DASH,
for a purse of $400, had seven runners, for which Coriander, Volcano, Verdigris, Falmouth, Sweet Bay, Mollie B. and Tom Leathers started. Verdigris was the favorite, selling for $110, Volcano $80, Coriander $55, and the field $30. The Texan filly Coriander made the running from start to finish, and won by two lengths in 3:13¼, Volcano second, and Verdigris third.

THE MILE HEATS, THREE IN FIVE,
for a purse of $600, brought out George Graham, Ella Harper, Kilburn, Pompey Pillar, and Sweet Bay. Ella Harper was the favorite at $200 to $70, and she won the first heat in 1:46, but Graham beat her the next three heats in 1:46, 1:51, 2:13¼.

The Fall meeting was brought to a close on Saturday, Dec. 18, after having continued over four days. The weather was fine and pleasant, the track heavy, and the attendance large, the four-mile-heat race proving a great attraction to the lovers of the turf.

THE HOWARD STAKES—
for two-year-olds, at $25 each, play or pay, with $500 added, second horse to receive $100 and the third $50, winner of the Slocombe Stakes to carry 7lb extra, one mile—had eight starters out of the sixteen entries. These were Stewart's Malmistic and Tecaica, Cottrill's Mediator, Rowell's Harry Edwards and Charley Rowell, Jennings & Hunt's Crab Orchard and Ashley, and Glover's Amanda Warren. Stewart's entries sold for $100, Mediator for $80, Jennings & Hunt's entries $105, and the field $30. Mediator carried 7lb penalty for winning the Slocombe Stakes on the first day of the meeting, and this was fatal to his success. Crab Orchard made the running for three-quarters of a mile, when Malmistic collared, and, after a fine race home, won by a neck in 1:53 from Mediator, Tecaica finishing third. Value of the stake, $900.

WINNERS OF THE HOWARD STAKES.

	Winners.	Sire.	Subs.	Str's.	Time.
1872	Cadwallader's Vandalia	Vandal	5	2	1:53¾
1873	Jenning's Ballankeel	Asteroid	26	9	1:46½
1874	Stone's Pauline Sprague	Joe Johnson	10	4	2:06
1875	Stewart's Malmistic	Planet	16	8	1:53

THE MILE DASH—
for a purse of $300, for horses that had not won a race during the meeting, $225 to the first, $50 to the second, and $25 to the third horse—had nine runners, viz., Kilburn, Puss Broadnax, Jennie Rowell, Laura, Falmouth, Port Leonard, Stampede, Mollie B., and Carrie Fish. Kilburn had the call in the pools, selling for $64; Puss Broadnax, $40; Jennie Powell, $50; and the field, $30. Kilburn jumped off with the lead, retained it to the end, and won the race by three lengths; Puss Broadnax second, and Jennie Rowell third. Time, 1:52¼.

THE FOUR-MILE-HEAT RACE.
for all ages, for a purse of $1,000, of which $200 went to the second horse, had six runners—Sam Harper, George Graham, Colonel Nelligan, Oxmore, Pompey Pillar and Falmouth. The Texan colt Sam Harper was the favorite, selling for $300; George Graham, $110; Colonel Nelligan, $55; Oxmore, $30; Falmouth and Pompey Pillar, $75. The last-named four horses were distanced in the first heat, which Sam Harper won in 8:01 from George Graham, and repeated his success in the second and deciding heat in 8:33, amid the delight of the Texan turfmen present, whose representatives, Coriander, Ella Harper and Sam Harper (all the produce of the thoroughbred stallion Rebel, a son of Socks and grandson of imp. Albion), have won five races at this meeting.

BOARD OF APPEALS.

The Board of Appeals of the National Trotting Association met at the Fifth-avenue Hotel, in this city, on Tuesday, Dec. 14, and continued in session throughout the week. The members present were Col. Charles W. Woolley (chairman) of Cincinnati; C. J. Hamlin, Buffalo; G. H. Barnard, Trey; E. Thorne, Milbrook, N. Y.; W. Edwards, Cleveland, O.; G. Sturges, Philadelphia, Pa.; H. S. Russell, Boston, Mass.; S. T. Paysen, Brooklyn, N. Y.; and T. J. Vail, secretary, Hartford, Ct. There was a large attendance of owners and drivers of trotting horses in attendance each day, the proceedings causing great interest. The majority of the cases were referred to the Executive Session for decision. Among those decided without being so referred were the cases of Alden Goldsmith of Orange County, N. Y., versus the Syracuse Driving Park Association; Ambler Park, Pa., versus Wm. Roberts and the geldings McDaniel and Richard; and the petition of James McKee of Paterson, N. J., for reinstatement. The case of Mr. Goldsmith was an appeal against the decision of the judges of a race at Syracuse last September, in which his mare Sister was distanced in the fifth heat by the judges on the ground, that although she had won heats, her driver was not endeavoring to win the race. The board decided that the judges were in error, that the race after the fifth heat was null and void, and consequently unfinished, and must be trotted out on the same track by the competing horses in the fifth heat on some day between next June 1 and July 10, Norwood having the pole and Sister second place, and that the money already paid to the horses in this race be returned to the Association, to await the result of the race yet to be trotted. In the case of James McKee, the board, in consideration of his confession and the punishment he has received, reinstated him on good behavior until the last meeting of the board in 1876. The board found that W. Roberts had fraudulently substituted the so-called horse Richard for the gelding McDaniel, and must refund the money paid over.

RACING AND TROTTING NOTES.

The Elmira Driving Park Association has decided to expend $2,500 on a monument to be erected on the spot where American Girl died. It is to be chaste and elegant in design, and a fitting memorial of the famous mare......The trotting mare Nevia, with a record of 2:23¼, has been shipped to Budd Doble in California......The Chester Park Association, Cincinnati, O., have at last decided to have a running meeting there in the Spring. The date is not definitely announced, but it will be as soon as the Louisville Jockey Club fixes their Spring meeting, which it will follow....Mr. H. N. Smith of the Fashion Stud Farm, Trenton, N. J., has lost by death his bay mare Ruby Clay, by Strader's Cassius M. Clay Jr. out of Flora by Revenue. She leaves a yearling filly by Ethan Allen......Some Chicago fancier of fast horses has recently purchased Frank Davis, with a record low down in the thirties, for $7,000......The fast pacers Sleepy George and Bay Sally have started for California, to try their speed against Jim Brown, Nimrod, and other fleet pacers of the Pacific Slope......Mr. R. Burden of St. Paul, Minn., has lost his well-known trotting horse Richard R., who has a record of 2:36, but could trot much faster than those figures; he was valued at $10,000......Mr. A. J. Alexander of Woodburn Stud Farm has bought of Mr. J. Moynaham, Detroit, Mich., the brown three-year-old filly Quickstep, by Lexington out of Schottishe......The well-known trotter Young Bruno has recovered from his lameness, and is being regularly driven by Charley Green. He has a record of 2:22¾........The four-year-old colt Cousin Vic, by Uncle Vic out of Lilac by Lightning, while at exercise last week over the Louisiana Jockey Club's race-course, at New Orleans, ran away, and injured himself so that he will be unable to do any work for some time. ......At the regular annual meeting of the Utica Park Association, Hon. Chas. W. Hutchinson was chosen president; Hon. Miles C. Comstock and Thos. R. Procter, vice-presidents; Chas. R. Weed, secretary; and Alexander Buell, treasurer......A new turf club has been organized in Paducah, Ky., under the title of the Southwestern Jockey Club, and the Fair grounds will be converted into a race-course, where the club will hold its annual meetings. The new club has made an application to the Kentucky State Legislature for a charter of incorporation........Col. Holloway last week sold an eleven-months-old short-horn bull—the Duke of Hilhurst—to Col. W. E. Simms of Kentucky for $12,000. Five months ago he was purchased for $7,000 from M. H. Cochran of Canada. A case of a short-horn bull where still greater profit was realized is that of 19th Duke of Andrie, 6 years old, recently sold by Messrs. Winslow & Pratt of Massachusetts for $10,000; he was purchased in 1873, at Mr. Alexander's sale, for $2,000.

RETURN OF MR. SANFORD.—The well-known New York turfman M. H. Sanford returned in the Russia last week from his visit to England, where he went to see his stable of American racehorses installed in their training-quarters, which have been fixed at Newmarket, the great headquarters of the English turf. He represents all his horses as being in fine condition, and within forty-eight hours after their arrival they were apparently as fresh and full of spirits as when they left Preakness. He speaks in high terms of the manner in which he was welcomed by the leading turfmen and press in that country. He had promptly complied with the rule of the English Jockey Club in filing certificates of the pedigrees and ages of his horses with the Messrs. Weatherby, the official representatives of the club, and which are required in the case of horses foaled out of the kingdom of Great Britain. Mr. Sanford returns to England in the Spring, to direct the racing operations of his string of American bred racers.

COLUMBIA FALL RACES.—The Fall race meeting at Columbia, S. C., commenced on Wednesday, Dec. 15. The first race was one of mile heats, for three-year-olds, and was won in three heats by M. Jordan & Co.'s Jack Trigg, beating Hitchcock's Springlet, who won the first heat, but was beaten the two next. The second race, a dash of one mile and a half, was won by Lotta Moore, with Abdel Koree second. On the second day Johnny B. won the three-quarter-mile-heat race in two straight heats. Time, 1:19½, 1:20; and First Chance won the half-mile-heat race in 51½sec., 52½sec. On the third day (Friday, Dec. 17) Lottie Moore won the mile-heat race, best three in five, in three straight heats. Time, 1:48½, 1:50, 1:48. Larry Hart came in first in the mile dash, but was ruled out for foul riding, and the race given to Abdel Koree, with Century second. The third race, over hurdles, was won by Vandal Jr., beating Charley Cheatham.

DEATH OF MARGRAVINE.—The famous broodmare Margravine, by imp. Margrave out of Gabrielle by Sir Archy, was recently found dead in her pasture at her owners', Messrs. Cassell & Bryant, Lexington, Ky. She was foaled in 1845, and consequently was in her thirtieth year. She was the dam of the great racehorse James A. Conelly, as well as of Blind Tom, Kitty Clyde and Rival.

THE TROTTING STALLION Rhode Island, which was purchased Dec. 17 by Lieut.-gov. Sisson, and taken to the sea-coast, died on the 19th of inflammation of the bowels, as we learn from a dispatch dated Providence, R. I., Dec. 20. The price paid by Mr. Sisson is said to have been $6,000.

BILLIARDS.

SCRATCHES.

Wm. Burleigh got back to Chicago Dec. 15, from New Orleans......Frank Palmer has left Wilmington, N. C., and is now in Pilkata, Fla., where he thinks of locating......Maurice Daly was in Charleston, S. C., on the 11th, en route for Jacksonville, Fla., where it is his present intention to remain during the Winter. Should he find an eligible spot for a billiard-room, he will seize upon it...... Ralph Benjamin is nursing a pool game at Durand's room, where he is teaching a select class how to "hell" the fifteen balls. Ralph at sixty-two is feeling as healthy as when he was twenty, and, while recognizing that life is uncertain, thinks that he is good for thirty years more...... Hiram Hentin has sold out his room in Earle's Hotel, this city......Harry Keating, having given up his place in Third avenue, has removed the bulk of his tables to Glass Hall, Thirty-fourth street, which he has reopened as a billiard-room. ......Samuel Knight is now employed at the rooms of the Dion Brothers ... The pinpool dispute between Tim Flynn and Charles A. Frink is still unsolved. ......The Columbian Room, Broadway and Twenty-second street, changed hands on the 18th inst., Messrs. John O'Connor and Thomas Murphy selling out to Messrs. Rice & Downing, for the sum of $18,000. The incoming proprietors are both Brooklynites. The room is indisputably the finest in this city. It was built especially for the purpose, upon the ruins of another room, and was originally opened on Dec. 16, 1865, by P. D. Kilduff, since the retirement of whom the place has four times changed hands......Adrian Izar, who on the 6th inst. started upon his Eastern trip, has since given exhibitions in Hartford, New Bedford, Springfield, Boston, West Meriden, Naugatuck and New London, in the last-mentioned city making a run of 352 in ten and a half minutes—fast work and high, but neither so fast nor so high as he himself has done on a 6x12 table......It is rumored that William Sexton, like the traditional young man whose sole capital is energy, will "go West," and settle in Chicago. Meanwhile he and Garnier are to combine in a series of exhibitions, which were to have begun in New Bedford, Mass., on Dec. 16, to be followed by Worcester 12, Baltimore Jan. 3, and Washington 4, 5 ... The second call for a meeting of the "National Billiard Congress" was as unproductive as the first, and on Dec. 14, the day chosen, there were just two "members" present—the "president" and Albert Garnier. The reason of this scarcity of attendance is the simple and incontrovertible one that there is no "Congress" whatever. There never has been a "National" one; and even if there were one, it would have no jurisdiction over the late tournament. The sole province of what has been termed the "National Billiard Congress," and which is composed of seven foreigners and three natives, is to assist in selling billiard tables. The players in the tournament of 1873 had the good sense not to proclaim themselves a congress, but those in the tournament of 1874 were less considerate, and not only incorporated themselves, but actually, although two-thirds foreign, sought to make laws for the government of the billiard-players of America. It was a good enough "Congress" to capture the prize-money in that tournament. That having been accomplished, the "Congress" dispersed quite naturally. Two of them are now residing in France, and the others have no right to be heard from officially...... George F. Slosson has challenged William Sexton to play 600 up for $500 a side. As this match, spoken of in our last, was almost made before George issued his challenge, it is to be hoped that that document will not have a tendency to break up negotiations altogether. Should the match be made, Sexton will in all likelihood be the favorite. There is scarcely much latitude for questioning which of the youngsters is the stronger player ordinarily; but there is abundant reason for questioning which is the stronger match-player...... We are authorized to state that we have "seen a man," and that he will match Cyrille Dion to play either Clark E. Wilson or Ned Brian at fifteen-ball pool, for $250 a side, subject to the approval of Dion, who as yet has not been consulted......A tournament of Western Union Telegraph operators has just been concluded at John T. Reeves' room. The contestants were Landy, Mitchell, Merrill, Risdon, Sprague and Horn. Landy and Mitchell tied for the prize, a purse, and the former won. The game was the three-ball carom, and the highest run was Merrill's 31......Isaac G. Taylor of Baltimore was in this city a few days ago...... Schulenberg, the Detroit billiard-manufacturer, has just been complimented by a suitable present from his employes......It is not certain now that Daniel Strauss will pay France that contemplated visit; but it is almost certain that either he or his brother Joseph will......Dan's prodigy, having mastered the 4½x7 table on which he began to play billiards, has been presented by H. W. Collender with a 4x8. The little half-orphan promises to become a player of mark...... It is likely that Digne, one of the many great players of France, will accompany the Vignauxs from that to this country. Negotiations are now pending...... Connecticut has always been a large field for the opening (and closing) of temperance billiard-rooms; and now Bridgeport is to have one...... George Slosson, who has many friends in the Jerseys, gave an exhibition in Newark on the 15th...... Emanuel Brunswick of Chicago, having come on to attend the opening of the new room in Philadelphia, containing eleven of his tables, was in this city on the 15th and 16th, and visited our leading rooms...... The Roosevelt Hall billiard-room this city, originally opened by Budd Scofield, has changed hands, the new proprietors being Paine & Van Lier, who took possession on the 14th inst......Pugh's room, St. Louis, where Slosson was superintendent prior to his last coming to this city, has been discontinued...... Albert Garnier has once more got possession of Maurice Vignaux's medal. Cyrille Dion won it from Maurice Daly on Nov. 23 last, and Garnier challenged Dion. The latter declines to defend it, and on Dec. 14 he forfeited it to Garnier. Better send it to Maurice Vignaux, from whom it was wrested by Garnier on a technicality that Vignaux could not possibly have availed himself of as against Garnier. It is pretty, but it represents nothing, and it is useful only as a basis upon which to diplomatize the daily press and the telegraph......The amateur tournament begun at the Fifth-avenue Hotel on Dec. 2, and a reference to which was made in these columns last week, was brought to a close Dec. 14. The contestants were Messrs. Strong, Duhy, Oakes, Rives, Ranney, Wright, Kelly and Massett. The [illegible] prize, a neat cue manufactured by H. W. Collender, [illegible] Wright, who, in playing off ties with Messrs. Ives [and Ma]ssett, defeated them. Ives took the second prize, a cue, and Massett the third, also a cue. The games were three-ball carom, 150 points up, and the best average was 2 40-55, made by Strong. The highest run was 26, made by Duhy ... J. A. Walker's new room in New Orleans was opened on Dec. 7......There are quite a number of persons in quest of a lease of the late Chris. O'Connor's rooms. We are not as yet at liberty to state who the parties are that, in all probability, will be successful...... Louis Shaw having got away with Eugene Carter in the game played in Toledo, O., on Dec. 17, and which a correspondent says was for $250 a side, Carter has since declared himself in this wise:

FRIDAY EVENING, Dec. 17, 1875.

I hereby challenge Louis Shaw to play me a match-game of 500 points, three-ball billiards, for $250 or $500, to come off in two or three weeks, on a Brunswick & Balke table.

Very respectfully, EUGENE CARTER.

The game that led to this challenge was played at the Adelphi, was closely watched by a numerous gathering of billiardists, and was won by Lou by 89 in 500, after he had made a run of 85 and Carter had put up as many as 83 in his crowning inning. A correspondent assures us that billiards is red hot in Toledo, and that there is a fair prospect of another encounter between the champion of Ohio, which is Carter, and the graduate of Omaha, which is Shaw ... The pinpool department at John Reeves' has been assigned to James Kernan, who has been there before, and who, so far as the game is concerned, has "been there" for upwards of twenty years, North, South and West. ...... P. A. Fitzgerald, having withdrawn from the Sturtevant House, has accepted an engagement as pool-engineer at the room of Garnier, who, with Sexton, returned from his Eastern trip on the 18th inst...... Sexton intends to take a week to answer Slosson's challenge, mentioned elsewhere, and in the interim he proposes to composedly digest it...... A meeting was to have been held on the 20th inst., at the late Chris. O'Connor's rooms, to take measures towards the proposed entertainment in behalf of his widow......William Deveraux has withdrawn from Reeves' room.

PHIL. TIEMAN'S TOURNAMENT.—The following letter gives a correct list of the entries for this event:

CINCINNATI, Dec. 13, 1875.

EDITOR NEW YORK CLIPPER.—Dear Sir: I have completed arrangements for a billiard tournament, to take place at my rooms this week. It is for the amateur championship of this city, and the games are to be French caroms, 200 points up. There are to be three prizes: The first is $100 cash; second, $50; third, $25, the winner of the first prize to be the champion amateur. The following players are entered: William West, John Graham, Frank Myers, Tom Radcliff, and Frank Jones. The games are to be played on a Standard American Brunswick & Balke table, with Phelan's cushions. The first game will be played this afternoon at two o'clock, between West and Graham; the second on this evening at eight o'clock, between Myers and Jones. I will, at the end of the tournament, send you all particulars. Yours, truly, PHIL. TIEMAN.

ALBERT GARNIER is notified of a letter addressed to him in our care.

BASEBALL.

CLUB RECORD.

RIVERSIDE OF MEMPHIS, TENN.

VICTORIES.

May 16	Riverside vs. Knickerbocker	10 to	9
May 23,	Riverside vs. Memphis	18	9
June 6,	Riverside vs. Knickerbocker	30	16
June 20,	Riverside vs. Memphis	21	16
July 11,	Riverside vs. Knickerbocker	11	5
Aug. 1,	Riverside vs. Knickerbocker	20	9
Aug. 19,	Riverside vs. Railroad Nine	17	10
Aug. 23,	Riverside vs. Occidental of Little Rock	27	18
Aug. 24,	Riverside vs. Arsenal of Little Rock	17	9
Aug. 25,	Riverside vs. Phoenix of Little Rock	31	9
Aug. 26,	Riverside vs. Langues of Little Rock	51	9
Aug. 27,	Riverside vs. Occidental of Little Rock	22	15
Sept. 5,	Riverside vs. Picked Nine	39	1
Sept. 14,	Riverside vs. Athletic of Colyerville	17	10

No defeats.

BOSTON BASEBALL ASSOCIATION.

On Dec. 15 the annual meeting of this Association was held at the club-rooms, Eliot street, Boston, and the proceedings proved to be quite interesting. A feature of the business transacted was the reading of the directors' report, which alluded to the secession of Spalding, White, Barnes and McVey. In commenting on this subject the report says: "That in times past the matter of renewals of contracts with players from year to year has been governed entirely by circumstances. As a rule, it has not been customary or deemed necessary to re-engage players until near the close of the season. The directors were accordingly surprised to learn that Messrs. Spalding, McVey, White and Barnes had on the 10th of July agreed to play next year in another club. It had been deemed expedient about a month previously to open negotiations for next year with Mr. White; and, although no settlement was made, yet it was understood by the directors that the subject had been left so that the interests of the Association would be considered by him in deciding where he would play next year. Owing to a misunderstanding by him, which cannot be accounted for by the directors, of the nature of the conversation, he deemed it proper to make another engagement without notice, as had been done by the three other gentlemen. Mr. Spalding afterwards informed the directors that his action had been deliberately taken, and that he had used his best efforts to induce the others to do as he had done. That in the cases of McVey and Barnes and himself the movement was but the carrying-out of their intentions, formed a number of years ago. He has since publically acknowledged his responsibility for the change, and has said that it was a foregone conclusion, which no action of the directors could have prevented. The Board consider that his vindication of them should be a final answer to complaints, even now made by some, that the nine was not kept intact for next season. The vacancies have been filled by the engagement of Joseph E. Borden, T. Murnan, T. McGinley, and F. T. Whitney." In conclusion the report pays a high compliment to Captain Harry Wright, and also says that in the 171 week days of the season, 135 games have been played, showing a loss of but 36 days on account of rainy weather and traveling.

The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year: President, N. T. Apollonio; secretary, Harry Wright; treasurer, F. E. Long; directors, John C. Haynes, John P. Reed.

Mr. Apollonio spoke at length on the condition of the finances of the Association and the business for the coming season.

Mr Soden moved that a dividend of $10 per share be declared by the directors, payable on demand. A stock vote was called for by Mr. Lunt, the result of which was as follows: Yea, 51; nay, 25. The meeting was then dissolved.

Report of the Treasurer of the Boston Baseball Association for the year ending November 30, 1875.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from former account		$853 13
Gate receipts		34,987 74
Members' tickets		1,946 19
Total income		$37,787 06

EXPENSES.

Players' salaries		$20,685 00
Advertising, printing, etc		1,440 88
Rent of grounds		617 50
Care of grounds and wages		888 82
Repairs of grounds		699 27
Sundry expenses at grounds		384 00
Uniforms, balls, bats, etc		223 94
Old accounts		470 33
Rooms at 39 Eliot st., viz:		
Fitting up	713 00	
Furnishing and fixtures	898 37	
Rent	344 00	
	1,955 37	
Less subscriptions	328 50	—1,626 87
Traveling expenses		6,896 56
Telegrams, postage, etc		750 82
Total		$34,505 99
Balance		3,281 07

The above report has been by us examined, compared with the treasurer's books, and found correct.

(Signed) N. T. APOLLONIO,
(Signed) JOHN C. HAYNES, } Directors.
(Signed) JOHN P. REED.

THE ACME CLUB of Chicago, Ill., propose to put a strong team in the field for the campaign of 1876, and will be prepared to play all clubs for the championship of that city.

WE HAVE LETTERS for Wm. Barnie of the Mutual B. B. Club, and Jas. Holdsworth.

AQUATICS.

THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE RACE.

We present underneath copies of the letters addressed to the Oxford University crew and to the Hon. "Tom" Hughes in connection with the proposed international race on the water whereon may be held the R. A. A. C. regatta for 1876:

NEW YORK, Dec. 3, 1875.

TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY CREW.—Dear Sir: At the annual convention of the Rowing Association of American Colleges, held at Springfield on Dec. 1, 1875, it was unanimously decided to invite the crews of Oxford, Cambridge and Trinity Universities to compete with the leading crews in our Intercollegiate Regatta, to be held on Wednesday, July 19, 1876. The race will be rowed at an early date after such regatta, in six-oared boats, without coxswains, and over the Intercollegiate Regatta course. The Regatta Committee were instructed to communicate with those universities, and urge upon them the acceptance of our invitation. Yours truly,

B. FRANK REES, for the Regatta Committee.

FROM FRANK REES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 3, 1875.

TO THE CAPTAIN OF THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY CREW.—Dear Sir: We earnestly hope that your university will send over a crew, as requested by our Association. We are confident that, as soon as you land in this country, every attention will be shown you by our representatives and by our people at large. While in training at the place of the regatta no pains or efforts will be spared to make your visit a pleasant one, and everything that can be done to assist you in your preparations, and make your work less arduous and more agreeable, will be done. Facilities for the transportation of boats and crews shall be at your disposal, as well as boat-houses and training-quarters. We shall try and make a good impression on our English cousins, and show them while here how warm and cordial are our feelings toward them, and how much we have desired their presence among us. Hoping to receive a favorable response at an early day, I am yours, truly,

B. FRANK REES.

THOMAS HUGHES.

NEW YORK, Dec. 3, 1875.

HON. THOMAS HUGHES, M. P.—Dear Sir: At the annual convention of the Rowing Association of American Colleges, held Wednesday, Dec. 1, 1875, you were unanimously elected umpire, and the Regatta Committee were instructed to communicate with you and urge your acceptance. As the coming year is our Centennial year, and our regatta promises to exceed in interest any that have heretofore taken place in our land, we are anxious as an Association to have everybody and everything connected with our race of "'76" in accordance with the importance of the times. It is the highest compliment we can confer as an Association, and is intended as such by those who have always admired the author of "Tom Brown," and the sterling integrity of a distinguished man, who has been a friend of our country; and also as a compliment from not only American colleges to English universities, but from America to her parent country, England, and as one small means to help strengthen that friendly feeling between the peoples of the two countries, which seems each year to be growing stronger. We have, therefore, hoped that our friend across the water would revisit us, and at the same time, while visiting our Centennial Exhibition, confer on American college youths the great honor of acting as their umpire. Hoping to receive your acceptance at an early date, I am yours, truly,

B. FRANK REES.

THE ELECTION for officers of the Gramercy Boat Club of this city resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen: President, James I. Baird; vice-president, C. J. Hudson; recording secretary, D. McClintock; corresponding secretary, C. H. Wilcox; treasurer, H. R. Mills; captain, E. J. Atkinson; lieutenant, Frank Winne; trustees, Frank Hopper, Chas. E. Naething, H. R. Mills, John Kyle and R. E. Weisner.

THE WAVERLY BOAT CLUB of this city held their annual election Dec. 14. Result: President, Dr. W. M. Fleming, re-elected; vice-president, W. H. Marriner; secretary, W. H. Genet, re-elected; treasurer, John Stout, re-elected; captain, Benson Sherwood; recorder, Benj. F. Brady; chief coxswain, Capt. W. H. Fowler; trustees—B. F. Brady, John O'Neil and Jeremiah Baker.

THE HEGNER BOAT CLUB of Wheeling, W. Va., elected the following officers to serve the ensuing year: President, Townsend C. Adams; vice-president, Louis Felsing; secretary, F. J. Schumann; treasurer, James McGranahan; captain, Wm. Mears; directors, Wm. Mears, J. C. Adams and Louis Felsing.

GEORGE TARRYER outpulled F. G. Mace in a scullers' race, from Putney to Mortlake, Eng., for £30 a side, Nov. 30. He won by a dozen lengths in 27m. 6½s.

TOM COOMBS, brother of the late champion sculler of England, died in London Nov. 29, aged 56.

THE TRIGGER.

THE ONE-ARMED SHOOTIST.—James Ward, the Canadian champion wing-shot, on Dec. 8, for a wager of $50, undertook to kill 85 birds out of 100. Canadian rules. Conditions: Fifty single snow-birds, 21yds rise; thirty single wild pigeons, 21yds; ten pair wild pigeons, 21yds; all from ground traps, placed ten yards apart. The trial took place on the Don flats, Toronto, Ont., and Ward won easily, killing 43 snow-birds, 29 single and 19 double pigeons; total, 91. Referee, John Young, Toronto Gun Club. Trapper, William Loane, who also furnished the birds.

A PIGEON-MATCH for $100 a side, fifty single birds each, was shot by Messrs. Pike and Ramsay, at Brantford, Canada, Dec. 3. The former won, killing 38 to his opponent's 33. Referee, Joseph Taylor. On the same day J. H. Jull defeated General Major in a match for $50, twenty-one birds each; score, 18 out of 20 to 14 out of 19.

IN THE THIRD weekly competition for the three prizes offered by Mr. Hellwig, at his new gallery, 273 Eighth avenue, Dec. 15, A. B. Van Housen secured first prize with a score of 41; D. L. Beckwith the second, 40; and J. McGlensay the third, 30.

WE HAVE COMMUNICATIONS for Ira Paine and Capt. A. H. Bogardus.

PEDESTRIANISM.

A VENERABLE PEDALIST.—A correspondent writes as follows from Canton, O.: "Jacob B. Railer, aged eighty-three years, performed a feat of pedestrianism on the 14th inst. that is worth recording. Mr. Railer is an active member of the Board of Commissioners for Columbiana County, Ohio, and, desiring to attend a session held at the Children's Home, five miles south of Alliance, in Stark County, he started from his home, walked two miles to New Lisbon, arriving in time to miss the train to Leetonia. But the venerable gentleman didn't give it up; he brushed back his silvery hairs, placed his hat more firmly on his head, and started out of New Lisbon, over the roughest road in Ohio, on the bitterest and most disagreeable day of the season, and arrived safe at Leetonia, nine miles distant, having accomplished the total eleven miles in two hours and eight minutes. At Leetonia he took the cars to Alliance, and walked from there to the Home, five miles, as a matter of preference. For a man of his age, the state of the roads and weather, we call this a remarkable feat."

BART. TINNUCHER, we have a letter for you.

THE ELECTION for officers of the New York Caledonian Club for the ensuing twelvemonth resulted as follows: Chief, Robert Hamilton; chieftains, Charles G. Nicholson, James Grimmond, John Taylor, L. D. Robertson and Geo. Mitchell Jr.; finance committee, James A. Craig, J. Halliday and John Watts; property committee, Hugh Graham, John L. Smith and Robt. Williamson.

HOW TO BECOME AN ACTOR.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

1. To become an actor it requires nothing but cheek and an utter ignorance of the English language. Many have started into the business with these requirements, and have—failed!

2. When you get an opening, come to rehearsal with a cane, and have a cigar stuck in your mouth—it's only a rehearsal, and of course in the evening you will do different. Always manage to have the prompter yell his lungs out to get you for your scene—he's paid for it, and has nothing else to do. If the "call" is for 10 o'clock, and you are only on in the first scene of the first act, manage to get into the theatre about half-past ten—you have no place to go to, and if the company have to wait till you come it's nothing—they can study their parts while they are waiting. If any of the company should get "miffed" about it, tell them to "cheese it"—it sounds nice, and you will make a friend of him.

3. When you get a part to study up for the evening, don't go home and study, but visit some billiard-room and amuse yourself. You can "wing" it; and if you should happen to "stick," it's all right—you'll get your salary on Tuesday all the same; and the management will have great confidence in you, if he sees you can "gag" a scene through.

4. If you don't happen to have the exact dress for the part, "fake" up one—"it's only for one night," and the audience will not know whether you dress the character correctly or not?

5. When any of the ladies of the ballet speak to you, tell them that actors never speak to ballet-girls. They like it, and it shows your importance.

6. When a brother "fake" happens to stick in his lines, "guy" him. It's awful funny, and will make him more careful in the future; besides, you help the management by so doing.

7. When you are out waking talk loud about the "boss," and "if he don't give you better parts you'll get out." Of course, the manager can't do without you; and people will point at you and say "that's an actor."

8. When you enter a hotel, yell at the waiter, and say: "What do you call this? Where's the index to it?" You don't know how funny it is. Try it.

9. When business is bad, say to your brother fakes: "I knew it—how could they expect to do good business with that old fossil for a star?" If the management should hear you, he'll raise your salary; besides, you know better than the manager who is good and who is bad.

10. Another thing necessary to become an actor is to "guy" everything and everybody you see—it's witty.

11. When a poor actor comes to rehearsal with a seedy suit of clothes, make remarks about his personal appearance, and inquire as to what he does with his salary. Of course, you ought to know all about his business—don't he belong to the same company as you do?

When you have acquired these few points, you will find it an easy thing to become an actor. Other points will be given as occasion requires.

ONE WHO KNOWS.

Determined to be Honest.

The other day a man with a gaunt look halted before an eating-stand at the Central Market, and after a long survey of the viands he said to the woman:

"I am a poor man, but I'll be honest if I have to be buried in paupers' field."

"What's the matter now?" asked the woman, regarding him with suspicion.

"No one saw me pick up a twenty-dollar bill here, by this stand, early this morning; but, as I said before, I'll be honest."

"A twenty-dollar bill—pick up!" she whispered, bringing a bland smile to her face.

"I suppose," he continued, "that someone passing along here could have dropped such a bill, but it seems more reasonable to think that the money was lost by you."

"Don't talk quite so loud," she said, as she leaned over the stand. "You are an honest man, and I'll have your name put in the papers, so that all may know it. I'm a hard-working widow, and if you hadn't brought back that money it would have gone hard with my poor little children!"

"If I pick up money by a stand, I always give it up," he said, as he sat down on one of the stools.

"That's right—that's honest," she whispered. "Come right up here and have some breakfast."

He needed no second invitation. The way he went for cold ham, fried sausage, biscuit and coffee was terrific to the woman.

"Yes—I—um—try—to—be—yonest," he remarked between bites.

"That's right. If I found any money belonging to you I'd give it up, you bet. Have another cup of coffee?"

"Don't—care—fidoo," he said, as he jammed more ham into his mouth.

Even courtships have an ending. The old chap finally began to breathe like a foundered horse, and pretty soon after that he rose from the table.

"You are a good man to bring my lost money back," said the woman, as she brushed away the crumbs.

"Oh, I'm honest," he replied; "when I find any lost money, I always give it up."

"Well, I'll take it now, please," she said, as he began to button his overcoat.

"Take what?" he asked.

"That lost money you found."

"I didn't find any! I'll be honest with you, however, if I ever do find any around here."

"You old liar! Didn't you say you found a twenty-dollar bill here?"

"No, ma'am. I said that no one saw me pick up such a bill here?"

"Pay me for them pervishuns!" she yelled, clutching at his throat.

"I'll be honest with you—I haven't a cent," he replied, as he held her off.

She tried to trip him over into a barrel of charcoal, but he broke loose, and, before she recovered from her amazement, he was a block away and galloping along like a stage-horse.

AMUSEMENTS.

NOTICE.

THE CLIPPER ALMANAC FOR 1876 WILL BE READY JANUARY 8.

As an advertising medium, THE CLIPPER ALMANAC cannot be surpassed. The statistics and records it contains insure its being preserved for years. The circulation of THE ALMANAC for 1874, and of that for 1875, far exceeded our expectations.

To such of our patrons as desire to avail themselves of its pages to make their business known to one another and to the public, we would suggest that their favors be sent in as early as possible, as NONE CAN BE RECEIVED AFTER DEC. 27.

Advertisements for THE CLIPPER ALMANAC for 1876 will be inserted at the following rates, and on our usual cash terms: For one page, 7½x4½ inches, $40; half a page, $20; quarter of a page, $10; a space of 25x31 ems agate, $5.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, No. 624 BROADWAY.
MR. JOHN F. POOLE ......MANAGER.
NOW READY.
THE GRAND HOLIDAY PANTOMIME
NIMBLE NIP,
OR OGRE UGLI-PLUG, FAIRY SILVER-EYES, AND THE PRINCESS WITH THE STRAWBERRY MARK.
introducing
OUR ARMY AND NAVY.
EIGHTY BEAUTIFUL YOUNG LADIES
in song, chorus, marches military and naval drill.
100 CHARMING CHILDREN, MALE AND FEMALE.
A FULL DRUM-CORPS OF TWENTY-FOUR.
THE MOST GORGEOUS HOLIDAY TREAT EVER OFFERED EVEN AT THIS THE HOME OF PANTOMIME.
THE ENTIRE OLYMPIC COMPANY AND ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY AUXILIARIES.
MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY AT 2. [39-1t

BOOTH'S THEATRE.
CHRISTMAS WEEK.
EXTRAORDINARY HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.
Last week of the foremost impersonators of Irish Peasant Life
MR. AND MRS. BARNEY WILLIAMS,
when will be repeated, by reason of its overwhelming success, the romantic Irish drama
THE CONNIE SOOGAH,
and, in addition thereto, a famous YANKEE GAL impersonation, with songs, by MRS. BARNEY WILLIAMS.
** THURSDAY EVENING, benefit of the attaches.
** FRIDAY EVENING, joint farewell benefit of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams.
** Two grand performances on Christmas Day.
Dec. 27, grand spectacular production of Shakespeare's JULIUS CÆSAR. MR. LAWRENCE BARRETT, MR. F. C. BANGS, MR. E. L. DAVENPORT.
Sale of seats begins on Thursday. 39-1t

THEATRE COMIQUE, NO. 514 BROADWAY.
MR. MATT MORGAN......Manager
AN ENTIRE CHANGE OF TABLEAUX.
5 NEW TABLEAUX.
THE DELUGE.
THE JUDGMENT OF PARIS.
BATTLE OF THE AMAZONS.
DESTRUCTION OF POMPEII.
ROCK OF AGES.
First week of MR. JOHN PENDY and MISS NELLY NELSON.
Continued success of THE MINIATURE SIXTY-NINTH.
MISS ELLA WESNER, MISS JENNIE HUGHES, MISS VIRGINIA STICKNEY, MISS NELLY ST. JOHN, MR. WM. BARRY, MR. JOHN ALLEN, and Entire Company in A NEW OLIO.
MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY. 39-1t

FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.
PIQUE: FOR TWO HUNDRED NIGHTS.
EVERY NIGHT AT 7.45.
PERFORMANCE OVER AT 11.15.
AUGUSTIN DALY'S GREATEST PLAY, "PIQUE!"
with the most Tremendous STAR CAST ever given on this stage.
HOUSES JAMMED! ENTHUSIASM UNPARALLELED!
MATINEE CHRISTMAS DAY, 1.30. 39-1t

EAGLE THEATRE. BROADWAY AND THIRTY-THIRD STREET.
EAGLE THEATRE, THIRTY-THIRD STREET.
MR. JOSH HART......Proprietor and Manager
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THEATRE IN AMERICA.
THE DAYS OF MITCHELL'S VAUDEVILLE THEATRE REVIVED.
The wants of the people supplied at the EAGLE VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, BROADWAY AND THIRTY-THIRD STREET.
OPERA, COMEDY, FARCE, SKETCH, AND SONG
OPEN EVERY EVENING, AND MATINEES WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAY.
Box office open daily from 10 to 5. Seats reserved two weeks in advance.
MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY.
N. B.—Carriages can be ordered at 10.45.
MATINEES WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY. [39-1t

PARISIAN VARIETIES,
Sixteenth street and Broadway.
TEMPLE OF SENSATIONAL ART.
Evenings, 8 o'clock; Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday MATINEES, 2 O'CLOCK.
Palace of real pleasure and voluptuous art,
Where women dance and music charms the heart.
Most Extraordinary Attractions in New York.
20 ACTS. 50 STAR ARTISTS. 20 ACTS.
Grand Olio and Melange de Fascination.
The unprecedented success of the elegant, tasteful, delightful entertainments at this temple of art encourages the management to increase the attractions.
PROGRAMME OF THE WEEK
comprises 50 Star Artists in gems of Specialty, Variety and Novelty—a Pot Pourri of Beautiful Women, Ballets, French Dances, Tableaux Vivants, Farces, Sketches, Musical Gems, Operatic, Gymnastic, Acrobatic, and Dramatic Trifles. Among artists of the week are
Miss Rosie Keene and Miss Fannie Wentworth, W. Forrester, Miss Minnie Hall, Harry Montague, Miss Ella Arlington, Myles Morris, Miss Carrie Duncan, Arnold Brothers, Miss Kittie Blanche, Great Elviro, Miss Sadie Gitchel, George Atkins, Mlle. Bertha, F. M. Wills, Mlle. Farrand.
MONS. BLANDOWSKI'S FAMOUS CORYPHEES, Miles. Cammara, Hurtzwell, Herbert, Atkinson, Hennesey, Bertie, Kent, Young, Roland, Hesselberg, Cornell, and Marten.
20 MOST BEAUTIFUL FEMALE MODELS IN AMERICA.
FEMALE TALENT WANTED. 39-1t*

TIVOLI THEATRE,
EIGHTH STREET, between 2d and 3d avenues.
This is the only theatre in America conducted after the system of the London Music Halls.
OPEN EVERY EVENING AND SUNDAY.
THE GREAT EVENT.
THE GREATEST ORIGINAL, MAGICAL, SPECTACULAR BALLET PANTOMIME EVER PRESENTED IN NEW YORK, entitled
THE ERL KING,
in 3 acts, 12 scenes, and transformation of Superlative Grandeur and artistic excellence. Replete with 3 Grand Ballets, Amazonian Marches and Combats. Preceded by a most refined variety entertainment.
Family Matinee ever Saturday at 2.30.
Specialty artists can always secure open dates by addressing
39-1t* SIG. CONSTANTINE, Stage-manager.

GLOBE THEATRE,
GLOBE THEATRE.
728 AND 730 BROADWAY, BELOW 8TH STREET.
R. W. BUTLER......Manager
CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL WEEK.
GRAND CARNIVAL OF NOVELTIES.
NEW STARS! NEW STARS!! NEW STARS!!!
Engagement extraordinary of the world-renowned MONS. AND MME. D'OMER, the Champion Athletes of the World.
MR. CHARLES YOUNG, the Master Ventriloquist of the Age, with his talking heads and funny little men.
MONSIEUR L. DELORME, the celebrated opera-bouffe Artist and Vocalist.
Miss Winona Bridges, Miss Maggie Gray, J. C. Stewart, Charley Benedict, Bonnie Runnells, Hogan and Lord, Aubrey and Moulton, J. D. Griffin, W. H. Morton, Miss Alice Kemp, the Great Hayti Ballet Troupe in the Grand Ballet of All Nations. 39-1t*

WOOD'S MUSEUM. WOOD'S.
Third week of F. S CHANFRAU.
Every evening, Wednesday and Saturday matinees, KIT THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER.
Matinees Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, THE GIPSY WOLF.
CHRISTMAS DAY, Saturday, Dec. 25, Morning at 11 o'clock.
A. H. SHELDON......as......GREGORY JUMBLE
On exhibition, P. T. Barnum's Hippopotamus. 39-1t*

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS
BIRCH, WAMBOLD & BACKUS'
OPERA-HOUSE, Broadway and Twenty-ninth street.
TEMPTATION, STAGE-WHISPERS.
THE VILLAGE SURVEYORS, BOARDING-HOUSE THEATRICALS.
NEW SONGS, JOKES, DANCES, ETC.
THE FUNNIEST ENTERTAINMENT IN THE CITY, AND BY THE BEST COMPANY.
Street cars may be ordered at 10.
Seats secured. Matinee Saturday at 2. 39-1t*

COL. SINN'S NEW PARK THEATRE. BROOKLYN.
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY WEEK.
THE THRILLING ROMANTIC TEMPERANCE DRAMA, THE LAST NAIL. MORE NEW VARIETY STARS.
Jolly Nash, W. Henry Rice, Mlle. D'Atalie and pupils—Buonaparte and Angricole—King Sarbro, Freeman Sisters, McKee and Rogers, French Twin Sisters, Sam Devere. Drama, farce, minstrelsy, specialty and variety.
MATINEES WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS. 39-1t

THIRD-AVENUE THEATRE,
Between Thirty and Thirty-first streets.
B. W. HITCHCOCK, Proprietor.
THE UPTOWN FAMILY THEATRE.
NONE BUT FIRST-CLASS ARTISTS need apply to
39-4t GEORGE WINSHIP, Business-manager.

TO CIRCUS MANAGERS AND BAND-LEADERS.—PROF. NICK VOLLMAN is now prepared to furnish a No. 1 full brass and orchestra band for the coming season to any responsible company, or furnish any number of musicians to circus leaders. Salary reasonable. Os. Arbuckle, please write. Address
39-2t* CANNELTON, Perry Co., Ind.

THEATRE COMIQUE, PEORIA, ILL.
The only first-class place now running.
LADIES OF ACKNOWLEDGED TALENT ARE WANTED AT ALL TIMES.
Address MADAME ROBERTS,
39-2t* Theatre Comique, Peoria, Ill.

ALL AUTHORS AND CONTRIBUTORS to popular literature will receive an important circular of the "American Authors' Union" by immediate application, inclosing stamp to HENRY HEINEMAN, Secretary American Authors' Union, northwest corner Fourth and Race streets, Cincinnati, O. 39-3t

THEATRICAL SCENERY, portable. Nine scenes, handsomely painted—interior and exterior wings, large and small proscenium fronts to match, to fit any sized stage; borders, gas, footlights, rubber tubing, baize curtain, set house, window, rocks, bridges, and other articles. It will be sold for less than half cost. Only used a few times. T. BINGHAM, care T. McC., P. O. Box 1,327, Toronto, Ont., Canada. 39-1t*

WOULD LIKE TO HEAR from JACK WHITE, who traveled with Queen's Circus as an animal man the past two seasons. Address
39-1t* E. D. COLVIN, 57 Irving place, N. Y.

E. B. HOUGH,
SCENIC ARTIST.
THEATRICAL SCENERY AND DECORATION.
Halls and theatres stocked with scenery. Stages built. Send for circular. Address E. B. HOUGH,
39-13t* Wieting Opera-house, Syracuse, N. Y.

VICTORELLI AND LITTLE LDON and MISS ANNIE BRADDON appearing with success everywhere they go. First open date is March 6. Address H. VICTORELLI, care of CLIPPER office. [1t*

THE HIT OF THE SEASON.
THE GREAT LA RUE FAMILY AT THE GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE, PHILADELPHIA.
Read what the DAILY ITEM of Dec. 15 says about the above artists:
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THE SEWING CIRCLE,
Or Charity Begins at Home.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER,
BY H. B. H.

The time was in early December, the weather was frosty and clear,
When a company met by appointment in the parlors of Mrs. De Vere;
It was neither a wedding nor funeral that called forth these people to-day,
But to her for the Feejeean Islanders and chat in a sociable way.
There was young Mrs. Brown, from the Centre, arrayed in a new bombazine,
Which caused quite a flutter of envy as she moved with the air of a queen.
And old Mrs. Sparks, with her ruffle that stood up so stiff and precise,
That from the obese 'neath her earrings there seemed danger of taking a slice.
And then there was little Miss Pinkham, who the heart of a most would beguile
With her blandishments airy and graceful, and the sweet, winning light of her smile;
And Miss Constance Beaumont, a maiden of thirty odd Summers, came too,
With nose like the beak of an eagle and hair of sanguineous hue.
The parson, pretentions and pious, came in, in his dignified way,
A blessing to ask o'er refreshments and kneel with the others to pray;
He talked of the work in the vineyard, the duty each one had to do,
And ogled Miss Beaumont, who simpered, "'Tis pleasure to chat with you."
Mrs Parson, a meek little woman, sewed on with a reverent face,
Not doubting her clerical husband was filled with the fullness of grace."
Miss Smith was kept school in the village, and "led" in the Baptist-church choir—
Who gave private lessons in music to the children of Thompson the squire,
Who contributed poems and sketches to *The Unionville Young People's Press*—
Metaphysics discussed with the parson, while she sewed on her Feejeean dress.
Young ladies were there who "toiled not," like the lilies, "and neither did spin,"
Who could chatter like parrots or blackbirds, with ideas as vapid and thin.
Young gentlemen made the occasion a chance to display what they knew
Of gallantry, soap and perfumery, and to judge, from a mercantile view,
Of the glittering wares now before them, which would tarnish, which glisten through life;
Which would fill to the best satisfaction the noble position of wife.
These, and others too many to mention, the sparkling, the grave and the gay,
Were gathered to work for the heathen at Mrs. De Vere's house to-day—
To make dresses and shirts for the heathen, and discuss, in the friendliest mood,
The affairs of the neighbors outside them, whom the circle had failed to include.
Mrs. Sparks thought the village was worldly, that the Feejeean cause had grown cold,
As the income from shirts of last meeting was less than five dollars, when sold;
She held that the parents of children would show them the Feejeean need
And persuade them to save up their pennies the souls of the heathen to feed.
The cause was one near to her bosom—"Would I were that cause," sighed a sprig
Who sat near a bevy of damsels and tapped on a chair-back with big;
"There's the doctor's wife, down at the Corner—she might help us with money and time,
But she'd rather ride round with the doctor and distribute her jellies and wine
'Mong his patients, to coax down his physic; and really, I'm not one to cavil and pine,
I think she cures, in the hovels, very many more cases than he."
"Mayhap 'tis the doctor's wife's mission," said Miss Smith, as she stood up for the cause
Of the rights of her sex to be doctors, or parsons, or help make the laws;
"I hold that each woman should follow the track that her bounden duties mine.
To be most in accord with her feelings, and fearless to face all her foes:
Had I such a husband as Dr. Molloy, what a pleasure I'd feel
To join him to work for home suffering, and the heathen might go to the deil!"
Mrs. De Vere held her hands up in horror; Miss Beaumont rolled the whites of her eyes;
Mrs. Brown appeared struck with amazement, and the parson looked pained in surprise;
"Oh, how can a sheep of my pasture, whom I've fed with the 'milk of the Word,'
So far stray from my teachings as to utter what I have just heard!
Thou art mad, from much learning and study; see Acts xxvi, 24,
And 'tis plainly my duty to watch thee, lest thou turn to the fold nevermore."
Said Beaumont: "We'll watch o'er this sister, lest she turn to the fold nevermore."
And then to the company gathered came waiters with biscuits and tea,
While Puritan thoughts were forgotten, and chat on the fashions came in.
The fashions came in for discussion—should dresses have two breadths or four?
Should they hump up and bump up with bustles, or go straight as their great grandams 'of yore?
Should their trimmings be flounces, or fringes, or velvet that always is grand?
Should the hair be in frizzles, or powdered, or plaited in plain Grecian band?
And then, having finished the fashions, and settled what each one should wear,
They fell

BETWEEN THE YEARS.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.

The year is dying—from its weakened clasp
The sceptre falls; no more the laureled crown
Presses the brow: the child-like, feeble grasp
Drops from its hold the power it may not keep:
The snow falls silently and softly down,
And 'neath its robe the world lies locked in sleep.

Around his couch the generations throng
To wait his coming—kingliest of them all—
For him is kept the deathless psalm and song
By those who for him silently await
To spread above his limbs his funeral pall.

His hair is hoar; the frosty hand of Time
Ancient of days that toucheth ev'ry one,
Has touched him, and within this earthly clime
He lingers but a moment, and will pass
Unto the silent halls—his race is run.

Souls of the years that in the past have fled,
Swing wide your portals to the starless night—
Another comes to join the silent dead.
Be lifted, gates! A kingly one is here!
A mighty spirit wings its onward flight!

This is the Old Year. On his massive brow
The shadows fall; the furrowed trace of care
O'erseams his features, sad and passing now;
Yet, stretched upon his pallet, kingly, grand,
He lieth, still a little while to bear.

Around him hover shadows of old years,
Old hopes, old joys, old sorrows, and old cares;
Beside him rounds the dropping fall of tears,
The dead days mourning for their fallen chief,
Old woes, old griefs, old wishes and old prayers.

Alas! too old, unanswered and forgot;
And, like the centuries, born to die,
To share with them their fate—the common lot—
To wait in vain, and, waiting at His gates,
To swell with them the earth's funereal cry.

The arches of the heavens triumphant ring,
To hail the coming monarch of the earth:
The train baptisma', with the New-born King,
Passes the funeral train which bears the Old,
And angels sing the story of his birth.

Thus, since the morning stars together sung,
Life and its end have blended into one:
The bells have tolled, the merry chimes have rung,
And men been born, and new-born men have died,
And still is nothing new beneath the sun.

O Thou Eternal One! the rounded spheres
Are but thy playthings, evanescent man:
And all the New-born and the dead Old Years
Embraced by Thee are held a little while,
Counting as nothing in the mighty span.

The heavens are hollow bells that ring Thy praise,
And still shall ring when time shall cease to be;
Thy footsteps sound along the coming days,
Thy arms embrace, and hold in their control
The earth, the air, the islands and the sea.

And time, and space, and the eternal years,
The monarch's crown, the Dead Year's burial pall,
The sound of laughter, and the drop of tears,
Are held by Thee—Thy never-sleeping care
Embraces, keeps, enfolds, and guards them all.

To Thee we trust the still remaining time,
However long the years that are to be—
The hopes, the doubts, that cloud this earthly clime,
The future's sorrows, and its hours of bliss,
Its cares, its fears, we trust them all to Thee.

The undying years, eternal in Thy hands;
The sounding of the centuries to Thee:
O keep us safe within these border lands!
Our New and Old Years bring to dwell at last
Within Thy heaven, where "there is no more sea."

A QUEER BEDFELLOW For a Christmas Eve.

Christmas was come, and Washingley Hall was filled with guests. I know no other country house in which I would sooner have passed that cheerful season. George Stanley was hospitality itself; and as for his wife, her frank manners and natural amiability of disposition completely won the hearts of all her visitors; while their family of happy children, from blooming, blushing Fanny, of sweet seventeen, and Master Harry, who was just beginning to think about shaving, down to little blue-eyed Trotty, who was the pet of everyone and the privileged romp of the family—all reflected their parents' goodness, and made that merry music in a house without which Christmas would not be complete. We were a large party at the hall, and had tested its ample accommodation to the uttermost. All the dressing-rooms were pressed into use for us bachelors, and even the sacredness of the housekeeper's still-room was desecrated and converted into a species of barracks for "the young gentlemen." The ladies, it was rumored, had made compacts of partnership, and thus it was, as we afterwards learned, that Fanny Stanley shared Helen Warrington's bed. The greater part of the guests, Helen and her brother among the rest, did not arrive until Christmas-eve, so that our dinner on that night was our first general meeting, and passed off right merrily.

When the Christmas-romps with the children were over, and the mistletoe had been put up, and "the girls all kissed," and when the juveniles had been posted off to their night-barracks, we all drew around the spacious fire-place, and, while the yule-log blazed bright and cheerily, told Christmas-stories in which ghosts were as plentiful as blackberries. In one tale that was then told, the hero belonged to a family in which insanity was hereditary, and (as is commonly the case in such circumstances) appeared only in alternate generations; and thus, in the family mentioned, the sane son of a madman invariably came, in his turn, the father of a madman. I forget now who related the story of which this was the theme, but I remember it was someone who had not met the Warringtons before, and was ignorant of the fact that Helen's grandfather had died in an asylum, and that she herself had, some years previously, when at school, been "in a low way," sufficient to cause, at that time, considerable anxiety to her mother. This, however, was not known to the narrator of the story, and, indeed, was not remembered by those present, until after events recalled it to their memory; and Helen Warrington, too, was at that time a fine, handsome, merry-hearted girl, and one of the acknowledged belles of the county. What effect the tale may have had upon her, no one could then tell, as she sat back in the shade of the room, which was only lighted by the blazing fire.

That was the last tale told, and a light supper (for, on the children's account, we had dined rather early), that was discussed amid lively jokes and merriment, soon dissipated all the little lady-like fears the ghost-stories of the night had given rise to; and the village band soon after coming, with their Christmas-carol serenade, we sat for some time longer round the fire, until midnight and the earliest dawn of the Christmas-morning had come, and then, wishing one another "a merry Christmas," we all said good-night.

I have said that Fanny Stanley and Helen Warrington shared the same bed, and when, an hour after this, their maid had left their room, two of the loveliest faces of all the lovely ones that on that night were assembled beneath the roof of Washingley pressed the laced-pillows of the downy bed. It was not till the morrow that the maid called to mind the flushed cheeks and wild brilliancy of Helen Warrington's dark eyes as she laughingly bade her take a kiss of her young mistress, and wish her a merry Christmas, lest she should not have the chance next year. What followed from that time I shall describe as it was afterwards told to me.

After a little chat with Helen, Fanny had sunk into a slumber. How long she slept she knew not, but, on awakening, she missed her companion from her side, and on sitting up in bed, and looking around her, she saw Helen Warrington pacing along the other side of the old-fashioned bedroom. It was a beautifully bright night, and the light of the moonbeams shone full upon the two windows of the room and upon Helen, walking there in her night-dress, her cap off, and her long black hair streaming over her shoulders.

"Helen, dear! Come to bed! You will catch cold; are you ill?"

The white-robed figure stopped in its pacings to and fro, and came up to the bedside.

"Helen, what's the matter? How strange you look! You must be ill?" For Helen stood there without speaking, but looking fixedly at Fanny, with a strange wildness of expression. Fanny began to throw off the clothes to rise from the bed to assist her friend, believing her to be ill. Then Helen spoke:

"Lie still, Fanny! I am not ill, but I have come to put an end to your life. I must kill you!" And her words came in a low but distinct whisper, strangely at variance with her usual quick manner of speaking.

Fanny trembled in spite of herself, and she said, with half fear in her tone,

"Come Helen, what nonsense! Come to bed."

Still the white-robed figure stood there, at the foot of the bed, glaring with its eyes.

"I tell you, girl," it said, "you have but a few minutes to live! Say your prayers, and make your peace with God. He has sent me to destroy you!"

In an instant a crowd of thoughts tumultuously rushed through Fanny's brain; the conversation round the fire—the tale of the madman—the insanity of Helen's grandfather—and a hundred other things, all with lightning speed, linked themselves together in her mind, and she felt that Helen's long-concealed hereditary malady had burst forth, and that she was mad!

Even then she did not lose her presence of mind; and, with a forced laugh, she said:

"Come, Helen, dear—come back to bed: you know you cannot do what you are jesting about."

"Not kill you! Think you so? You are deceived, girl," said the white-robed figure. "I provided for all that, hours ago. Look here!" and raising her arm high in the air, the moonlight flashed on the shining blade of a large knife. With the cunning of insanity, she had contrived, unseen, to take it from the supper-table, and conceal it within the folds of her dress.

When the poor girl saw the knife, she sprang from the bed, and, with a loud scream, reached the door, and endeavored to open it. It was locked, and the key removed. She then, in a delirium of agony, turned and fled to the fire-place, to seize the bell-rope and alarm the house, but only to find the rope severed and useless. During this brief space the white-robed figure stood and watched her actions—apparently enjoying her despairing disappointment with a wild satisfaction.

"Now, girl," it said, "you see all escape is hopeless; so you have now nothing to do but to die!" And she advanced with her upraised knife and gleaming eyes.

"O Helen!—Helen!—spare my life! Help!—help!" and Fanny shrieked in agony. As she turned, half paralyzed with fear, to fly wildly about the room, she espied a closet, the door of which stood ajar, and into this she sprang, and, with the rapidity of a sudden thought, drew to the door, shrieking loudly for help. There was but little hope left for the poor girl, for the inside of the door was not furnished with a handle, and her only chance of keeping it closed was by fixing her fingers tightly round the lock, and so pulling it toward her. This she did with all the energy of desperation. But, at the best of times, this would have been a difficult thing to do; and now that she had to contend with the unnatural strength of a maniac, her chance of safety was poor, indeed. Fear, however, and the love of life gave a new vigor to her frame, and sustained her in those terrible moments. Helen had got the handle of the door on the outside, and was trying to force her way in, while Fanny clung the more tightly and despairingly to the lock, well knowing that upon this depended her safety. But, in a few seconds, the severity of this exertion had bathed her hands in a clammy perspiration, and, with a horror scarcely to be described, she felt that the security of her hold was relaxing. The door opened slowly, but surely, and swung backwards and forwards with her attempts to counteract the force the maniac was applying to it. As the figure of Helen was thus revealed to her, her dark hair tossing wildly over her night-dress, and her arm making thrusts with the shining blade through the partially-opened door, the courage which had hitherto sustained her now gave way, her wearied hands relapsed from their hold, and, uttering but one more piercing shriek, she fell back senseless on the closet-floor.

It so happened that the dressing-room in which, for that night, I had been put to sleep, joined the bedroom in which these scenes took place. One of Fanny's piercing shrieks had aroused me, and I had started from my bed in terror, impressed with the idea that the house was on fire, though not knowing from which direction the alarm had proceeded. In a moment I had partially dressed myself, when another and another shriek told me too plainly from what quarter they came.

The second door of the dressing-room, which opened into the bedroom, would, of course, be locked. Without losing time by trying this, I picked up a heavy portmanteau, which had, fortunately, not been unpacked, and swinging it round me at the lock of the door with one heavy, crushing blow that burst open the door, and threw down a dressing-table placed against it on the other side, I sprang into the room.

I shall never forget the scene. At the closet-door was Helen Warrington, with madness stamped in every look and action, her night-dress in confusion, and her disheveled hair falling down over her shoulders. Her left arm supported the passive form of Fanny Stanley, who lay senseless and motionless in her grasp, while her right wielded the knife, which she appeared about to plunge into the white bosom on which the moonlight shone so purely. To note all this was but the work of an instant; in another instant I was at her side.

She had turned to me as I came up, and, with a sort of saddened, reproachful look in her wild, dark eyes, said:

"Would you stand between me and God?"

Before she could use the knife on Fanny's form, or anticipate what I was about to do, I whirled the knife out of her hand. At once she threw Fanny from her, and rushed to the bedside to repossess herself of her weapon, but I threw myself upon her and held her firmly to the ground. Others had come to the door, and were trying, ineffectually, to obtain admittance. Amongst them I heard Stanley's voice calling in despair on his daughter's name, for he had recognized her alarming cries, and had fled along the corridor in an agony of terror. I called loudly to him to go round by my room, which, it seemed, in the hurried excitement of the moment, no one remembered as communicating with the bedroom. Directly afterwards they joined me. It wanted no words to explain the sad tale, and poor Warrington, who was one of those who had rushed in, was the first to assist me in securing his sister. Others assisted Fanny, who was still in a swooning state, and bore her from the room.

I need not pursue these distressing details further. The physicians who were called in did all they could; but human skill was ineffectual for one who was now a confirmed maniac.

* * * * * *

Poor Helen Warrington still lives in the asylum in which she was placed from the first. Fanny and I go to see her at intervals, but at no time has she recognized us. Under the kind discipline and humane treatment of Dr. ——, she appears to pass her days happily. And may we not hope that those whom God has thus been pleased to afflict have an inner light of happiness which shines the more brightly because it shines only for them?

As for Fanny, she has changed her name. Her deliverer on that terrible Christmas-eve is now her husband.

DRAMATIC NOVELTIES IN LONDON, ENG.

"BUCKINGHAM,"

a new historical play, from the pen of W. G. Wills, was performed for the first time at the Olympic Theatre on Nov. 29, upon the occasion of the benefit of the lessee, Henry Neville. We take the following notice from *The Era*: "When the curtain rises—the date is 1652—we are introduced to a hall in the Duke of Buckingham's mansion in Yorkshire, where we presently find his highness in high spirits, notwithstanding the adverses which have attended him, and joyous in the thought that he can welcome the young King Charles the Second under his own roof. The place, however, is in the hands of Cromwell and his troops, evidently eager for the capture of the son of the monarch whose blood they have but recently shed. The Duke's servant, and especially his old and faithful retainer, Thomas Traylman, seek to warn him of his danger; but their every word, look and gesture bring them under cover of the muskets of Cromwell's soldiers, concealed behind the arras. The warning, however, comes from Mary Fairfax, the daughter of the republican general. Between her and Buckingham a strong and undying affection exists, and, as love is proverbially invincible, George Villiers is speedily apprised of the danger which hovers near him, and which threatens the life of his master. He fires his pistol from the balcony of the mansion; he sees the young King's carriage turn at the signal; he laughs in the face of his enemies; he even defies Cromwell, who comes upon the scene; he taunts him with his cowardice in battle, and is only saved from the death-sentence about to be pronounced by the republican chief through the intervention of Sir Thomas Fairfax, banishment being substituted for the more terrible doom. In the second act we find that, after the lapse of a year, Buckingham, swayed by motives which are both amatory and political, has returned to England. The scene is Old Charing-cross. Here we discover him disguised as a mountebank—a vender of nostrums supposed to cure all the ills that flesh is heir to, and many more, besides. He is, in fact, a [illegible] edition of Belphegor, with the old retainer [illegible]man as his Fanfaronade. He meets his lady-love, and with her exchanges vows of constancy. His customers are for the most part Puritans, whose snufflings and snivelings he undertakes to cure. His discovery is imminent, but he fears not. He changes his own quaint garb, and dons the Puritanical cut. But still recklessness is characteristic of him and all he says and does. To the drawling, Scripture-quoting Colonel Hip-and-Thigh he conjures up the picture of his Satanic Majesty (alias Cromwell), given above. The Puritan colonel begins to suspect; he calls for a toast in honor of Cromwell. Does our hero respond? He does, with a vengeance. Seizing a goblet, he invokes confusion upon the man of lies and craft and tyranny, and, with a hearty shout, calls upon the company to drink to the health of the young King Charles. His arrest follows as a matter of course, and in the third act we find him at Whitehall, in presence of the Protector. Death is to be his portion. But from the lips of his daughter Cromwell has learnt that his victim is the man she loves with her whole soul. And here it is our author takes upon himself the responsibility of depicting the head of the Commonwealth in his worst colors. The life of the man who has most bitterly reviled him, who has heaped upon him insult upon insult, who has laughed his threats to scorn, who has treated his edicts with contempt, who has branded him with cowardice, shall be spared if he will consent to an immediate alliance with his daughter Elizabeth; not that the father loves that daughter much, but that he values the Duke's title and his broad acres more. Life is sweet, and the Duke gives a seeming consent. Elizabeth, however, is induced to consent to a scheme in which she will have to make self-sacrifice. Buckingham would marry Mary Fairfax, and the Protector's daughter with her exchanges veils. The lovers are on the brink of safety when parental affection thwarts their design. The father would kiss his daughter ere she departs. In spite of all resistance, the veil is lifted. Whose face is it he sees? Not his daughter's, but that of Mary Fairfax. There is no bound to his rage. He orders the Duke to the Tower as the preliminary to the scaffold, and, with poor heart-broken and self-denying Elizabeth lying prostrate and insensible in her father's arms, the curtain falls for the third time. Five years are now supposed to pass, and when next we encounter Cromwell the hand of death is upon him. His daughter is dead. Buckingham is still in prison, and the Protector's last thoughts are bent upon revenge; his main purpose is to sign the document which shall send Buckingham to the scaffold. He calls his victim before him; he puts his name to the fatal warrant; immediately afterwards his mind wanders; he sees in the Duke the person of the 'murdered' Charles the First; he raves of battles; he quotes Scripture in abundance; and is finally carried off in a dying state by his servitors. The devoted Mary Fairfax arrives upon the scene with a reprieve for her husband signed by Richard Cromwell. But the sturdy Colonel Hip-and-Thigh regards it not while Oliver lives. The sentence must be carried out. There is a sad parting between the young and gallant Royalist and his loving wife. His neck is bared for the executioner. He mounts the scaffold. He lays his head upon the block. The axe is lifted. It is about to fall, when, hark! the bell of St. Paul's is heard. Oliver Cromwell is dead. The reprieve is effective. 'Long live Charles the Second!' is the cry, and, with the echo 'Long live Buckingham!' the curtain falls for the last time.

"The literary merit of the play is beyond dispute. Nothing could well be finer than the Duke of Buckingham's reply to Cromwell, in the third act, after his condemnation to death:

I do condemn thee also to a dungeon.
Tremble by day—thy palace is a dungeon,
Whose jailer, Fear, shall keep the golden key
And people every shadow with assassins!
Tremble at night—thy chamber is a dungeon.
The winds shall hiss at thee their shrill indictment,
The rain shall seem to thee a nation's tears.
The household fire, which cheers the innocent,
Shall take the semblance of red autographs
Signing the hideous death-warrant again!
Thy murdered master's melancholy eyes
Shall open on thy dreams with mute reproach:
Bitter remorse shall ravin on thine heart,
And mocking fiends say "Amen" to thy prayers!
Waste thee, and pine, until we meet again.

While also for quotation we may select the final speech of the hero, when life and love and happiness come suddenly upon him, even as he stands, with his neck bared to the axe of the executioner:

The lurid thunder-cloud has lifted! Lo,
A sunny blazonry floods down the street.
Hear ye my vision.
I have touched the very confines of the grave,
And I bring back the gift of prophecy.
Soon from the feeble hand drops the great truncheon
It took a man to wield!
See! the young King comes back to claim his own;
The streets are lined with loyalty; the light
Upon the front of every house is smiles.
He comes! he comes! The shoutings of his welcome,
Like the white foam on a proud vessel's prow,
Cleave at his progress, and joy stretches after,
As the wide road of foam in a ship's wake.
Uncover, those who love him, shout
"Long live King Charles!"

The cast included the following: Buckingham, Henry Neville; Cromwell, Wm. Creswick; Lord Fairfax, Mr. Hayewell (his first appearance in London); Traylman, Mr. Odell; Col. Hip-and-Thigh, Mr. Voltaire; Mary Fairfax, Miss Fanny Enson (first appearance in London); Lady Elizabeth, Miss Goliere."

"TOOLE AT SEA."

A one-act piece, called a "new nautical nightmare," by Robert Reece, written for J. L. Toole, was first produced at the Gaiety Dec. 3. We are introduced to the popular comedian on board the steamship Cormorant. He is in his cabin calling piteously for the steward, and imploring the captain to stop the ship. When he is told she is "taut," his only reply is that she ought to be taught better; when he is informed that she is "tight," he at once concurs. The fact accounts for her rolling. Even as an actor this is the worst *roll* he has had. A deputation of the passengers comes to wait upon him, headed by the rivals, Mrs. M'Unicorn and Miss Highflyer. They prescribe for his physical ailments, and he runs the risk of being poisoned. Miss Highflyer is left in possession of the ground, and she administers champagne, which has the desired effect. She is in love with Algernon Turtle, who is on board, but who has not yet proposed. Unless she marries him immediately on landing, she will be started off to India. "Oh," says the comedian, "India may do for the youthful and the careless, but for not me." Miss Highflyer exacts from him the promise that he will make love to her, and so provoke the jealousy of Algernon. The promise given, the comedian gives a long yawn and falls to sleep. In the second scene we find him on the deck of the Cormorant. He has found his sea legs, and is dressed in startling naval costume. Mrs. M'Unicorn, with the avowal that her foot is on her native heath, which it is not, is brandishing a sword and crying for revenge against her rival. Algernon is equally fierce, and Miss Highflyer has been transformed into an Indian princess, attended by a couple of slaves given to very extraordinary acrobatic evolutions. She is resolved to marry the comedian. "I want someone to amuse me when I've got the blues, and it's cheaper to marry you than to pay you a salary," she remarks. He makes love in the most romantic and most comical fashion, and presently fresh honors crowd upon him. The captain, having a bad cold, gives him command of the ship. He is not a little puzzled as to his new duties, but faces them boldly, and tells a remarkable story of a voyage to Margate. A storm arises. The crew thirst for his blood. He seizes a couple of swords, and very quickly has his five-and-twenty foes dead at his feet. He dances a hornpipe in celebration of victory. The scene again changes, and, as the reader has doubtless guessed already, the adventures on deck have been "all a dream."

CUPID'S FOIBLES, FOLLIES AND FANCIES.

TOO LATE.

WRITTEN FOR THE NEW YORK CLIPPER.
BY MARION SACKETT.

I had a beautiful dream one night—
I saw my darling all in white—
A crown upon her forehead fair,
That flashed amid her golden hair.

With her white hand she beckoned me
From my wandering life across the sea;
And sighed, and gently called my name,
Saying: "Love, live not alone for fame."

The morning came, and daylight broke;
My heart was full, and thus I spoke:
"Hast thou forgiveness, then, for me?
I'll have no life afar from thee."

And soon I stood upon the shore,
And fondly cried: "We part no more,"
Then through the fields of waving grain
I homeward turned my steps again.

They led me past a churchyard drear
(How many graves made new that year!)
Upon a stone *her* name I read—
Alas, I knew my love was dead!

Too late, I came! alas, too late!
What words can tell my grief so great?
All that's left me now is prayer—
Pray heaven I'll meet my darling there.

SINGULAR MATRIMONIAL ALLIANCE.

It is a popular saying that "all the world loves a lover," and it may hold true that all the world loves to read of lovers. Some years ago there appeared in *The Chicago Inter-Ocean* a sketch of a singular marriage. It was related that the bride sailed for Italy, and the bridegroom started for Arizona within two hours after the wedding ceremony was concluded. The sketch, widely copied at the time, was true in substance and detail, but the romantic coloring of the marriage, so to speak, was in the first blush. The lapse of time and the change of fortune having brought one of the parties of the singular wedding to California, and placed the other well on the road to histrionic fame in Italy, it is now in good time to give the continuation of the romance. Briefly told, it is this: About four years ago, a young army-officer, Lieut. Philip Reade, attended church in Topeka, Kansas, and while there one voice of the choir impressed him as sweetly sympathetic.

The music touched his soul, and his heart went out to the rustic vocalist. He sought her acquaintance, obtained an introduction, and for months whiled away the hours unconsciously in the cheerful sunshine of her presence. He learned of her ambitions, and listened with all the fervor of a youthful enthusiast to a recital of her aspirations. She longed for fame in the great world of the opera, but there stood poverty, that twin companion of obscurity and enemy of genius, interposing obstacles in every path promising to lead to the goal of her ambition. Yet she did not despair, and had planned a girlish way of her own to reach Italy and study under the inspiration of great masters in the land of poetry and song. She had already begun to give music-lessons, and even had saved a few dollars, as the beginning of the fund. The young army-officer admired the heroism and applauded the daring pluck of the noble little woman. He had faith likewise in her future, believing that her talents would some day engage the attention of the song-loving world. Richer in purse than most army-officers, and generous withal, he proffered her the money to complete her musical education, which she in proper pride declined. However, she obtained means by singing in local concerts to pursue her studies in Boston, and little was heard of her until the Eastern papers, as already intimated, announced the wedding of Lieut. Philip Reade, U. S. A., and Miss Minnie Beals of Topeka.

It may be inferred that the marriage was the condition of her accepting money to pursue her studies in Italy, and it is true that more than three years' time had elapsed since the matrimonial event, and neither one of the pair had seen the other. In the meantime she applied herself with all the patience and diligence of feminine nature to constant study under renowned teachers, finally making her debut and winning words of praise from the eminent critics. In a recent letter from Italy to her husband, who is now in San Diego, in charge of the military-telegraph lines, the lady herself tells the rest of her story in the charming candor of girlish simplicity.

Although permission is granted to give the exuberant epistle *in extenso*, for the edification of our readers, the substance thereof will suffice for the purpose. The letter is dated at Milan, Italy, June 12, and, after the customary and very appropriate greetings of Mrs. Lieut. Philip Reade to her husband, opens with the announcement that she has signed an engagement for four years, at a splendid and increasing rate of salary, with Scalaerini, a celebrated Italian impressario. The debutante opens at the Poglieno Theatre, Florence, in Auber's new opera of "The Prodigal Son," produced for the first time in Italy. After this season she is to appear successively in all the leading theatres of Italy, and will thence extend her triumphant travels to other parts of Europe, probably visiting the United States before the expiration of the present engagement. Other evidences are given of the marked success of this deserving lady, and a brilliant future is before her. Her finishing instructions were received from Signor Galli, a famous Italian teacher. Such are the ultimate results of the pious turn that accidentally befell the nephew of old Ben Butler one Sunday morning, and led him to intrude into a quiet sanctuary of worship in a Kansas town.—*San Francisco (Cal.) Bulletin.*

TRUE LOVE IN VIRGINIA.—There is a young clerk in a prominent jewelry store here who has been visiting the daughter of a certain widow for eight years. For two years past they had been engaged to marry. The young lady's mother objected to it, not because the young man was unworthy, but because she wanted her to marry a gentleman from Richmond, who was reported to be in better pecuniary circumstances, and who had also professed a strong attachment for the young lady. So, after much persuasion on the part of the mother, brother, and other friends of the girl, she agreed to marry the gentleman from Richmond. Accordingly, they proceeded to prepare for the nuptials. He engaged his groomsmen, and his "best man" had spoken to a minister, and engaged carriages for the ceremony, which was to have taken place on Thursday night last. But while these preparations were going on, the old lover was looking out for his own interest. He met his true love in secret on Monday last, and, upon talking over the matter, they agreed to elope and be married. On Wednesday morning they, in company with a few selected friends, slipped over to Portsmouth, N. C., where they were duly and lawfully married by a magistrate. They returned to the city that afternoon, and went to the widow's house, where a warm reception awaited the bridegroom, which so excited the nerves of the bride that she was taken suddenly ill, and is still confined to bed in her mother's house, where her husband is denied admittance.—*Norfolk, Va., Cor.*

OBSCENE LITERATURE.—In the United States Court, Philadelphia, Dec. 11, Judge Cadwalader had arraigned before him Dr. G. W. Young, who was recently convicted of sending obscene matter through the mails. He was then sentenced to one year's imprisonment. The Judge gave him the alternative of paying a fine of $5,000, which he was unable to do. He was permitted to go on bail for a week, to arrange his affairs before entering upon his term.

BASEBALL.

THE CENTENNIAL RULES.

FOURTH ARTICLE.

The fourth rule of the professional code of laws governs the play of the attacking forces, the most important of which is the "pitching," or the delivery of the ball to the bat. Experience has plainly pointed out that the best rule controlling the powers of attack and defense—viz., the pitching and the batting—is that which leaves them as nearly equal as possible. To reach this point has been the aim in the amendments made each season to the sections of the rules which especially apply to pitching and batting. It is, apparently, very easy to suggest this and that change for the purpose of gaining a point of play or of deriving some advantage of which this or that club may avail themselves; but this is not what our revision of the rules each year is intended to accomplish, by any means. The object we have in view is solely to improve the game.

In 1875 the rule governing the delivery of the ball to the bat allowed the pitcher too great latitude for wild pitching, and that governing the action of the batsman cramped his movements too much. While the pitcher was allowed by last year's rules to send in *nine* wide balls to the bat before he could be punished by giving the batsman a base on called balls, the batsman was obliged to strike at the first *three* fair balls—viz., balls over the base and at the height called for—sent in, or be punished by being given out on called strikes. This was manifestly unfair, and in order to equalize the play of both we have amended the rules applicable to each position, so as to have balls called on every *second* unfair ball delivered, and only to have strikes called on the batsman when he fails to strike at the *second* fair ball. This places both parties on an equal footing, and for the first time both the pitcher and the batsman will have an equal show in their respective powers of attack and defense.

The first section of the fourth rule—a section which requires no change in its wording—is as follows:

RULE IV.—THE PITCHING DEPARTMENT.

THE PITCHER'S POSITION.

SECTION 1. The pitcher's position shall be within a space of ground six feet square, the front line of which shall be distant forty-five feet from the centre of the home-base; and the centre of the square shall be equi-distant from the first and third bases. Each corner of the square shall be marked by a flat iron-plate or stone six inches square, fixed in the ground even with the surface.

The second section refers to the movements of the pitcher in delivering the ball, and is as follows:

DELIVERING THE BALL.

2. The player who delivers the ball to the bat must do so while within the lines of the pitcher's position, and he must remain within them until the ball has left his hand; and he shall not make any motion to deliver the ball to the bat while any part of his person is outside the lines of the pitcher's position. The ball must be delivered to the bat with the arm swinging nearly perpendicular at the side of the body, and the hand in swinging forward must *pass below the line of the hip.*

The italicized words show the amendment to the section, which is that of prohibiting the waist-high delivery which the previous wording of the section admitted. Last season the rule stated that the hand in delivery—that is, in passing the side of the body—must "not be raised higher than the hip." This admitted of a waist-high delivery, and made it difficult for the umpire to define what a fair delivery was. By the amended section the pitcher's hand holding the ball must pass *below* the line of the hip, or the umpire must declare the ball unfairly delivered. It is useless, now that experience of the past four years has so plainly shown the advantages of an underhand-throw delivery, in the command of the ball it gives to the pitcher, to talk of obliging pitchers to deliver the ball by the "toss," or what is known as "the old, square pitch;" a style of delivery which any ordinary batsman would now punish with ease. The point of play of the attacking forces in the pitching department is to combine with speed *thorough command of the ball;* for, without this primary essential, strategy in pitching is out of the question, and strategy is now the strong point of a scientific pitcher. We do not care how great a player's power may be to send in a ball with speed, *for the pace must always be governed by the ability of the catcher to hold and stop the ball.* Consequently, mere speed in delivery would be worse than useless without the power to command the ball and the judgment to add strategy to the attacking force. Therefore there is no need of any rule checking the power to deliver the ball with speed, but only to limit the delivery to such a method as will insure its being sent in within fair reach of the batsman. We, therefore, in our code of rules allow both the jerking of the ball to the bat and the limited underhand throw, prohibiting only the overhand throw and the style of delivery known as "round-arm," as in cricket.

The above section, in limiting the movement of the arm—when swung forward—to its passage below the line of the hip, has nothing to do with the raising of the hand before it passes the side of the pitcher, as he can swing his arm as high as he likes before that.

A FOUL DELIVERY.

3. Should the pitcher deliver the ball by an overhand throw, a foul balk shall be declared. Any outward swing of the arm—as that of round-arm bowling in cricket—or any other swing save that of the perpendicular movement referred to in section 2 of the rule, shall be considered an overhand throw.

FOUL BALKS.

4. When a foul balk is called, the umpire shall warn the pitcher of the penalty incurred for such unfair delivery; and should such delivery be continued until three or four balks have been called in one inning, the umpire shall declare the game forfeited by a score of ten runs to none.

FAIR BALLS.

5. Every ball fairly delivered and sent in to the bat over the home base, and at the height called for by the batsman, shall be considered a "fair ball."

We now come to the calling of balls—viz., the penalty inflicted on the pitcher for a wide-ball delivery—and here we find decided need for amendment. By last season's rule the pitcher had an opportunity afforded him to send in no less than *nine* balls out of reach of the bat before the batsman would be sent to his base on called balls. Moreover, by the absurd introduction of the word "consecutive" after the word "third" the rule was practically rendered a dead letter in its application. The mistake made in this respect was so plainly apparent that the rule as it read was not observed, the ruling as interpreted by THE CLIPPER, viz., that of calling balls in the order of their delivery, being carried out by all the professional umpires of 1875. Below will be found the amended section:

CALLED BALLS.

6. All balls delivered to the bat which are not sent in over the home base, or "high" or "low," as called for by the batsman, shall be considered unfair balls, and every *second* ball so delivered *must* be called *in the order of its delivery;* and when three such "balls" have been called the striker shall take first base, and all players who are thereby forced to leave a base shall take one base. No "ball" shall be called until the ball has passed the home base.

By this amendment the pitcher's latitude in delivering wide balls is reduced from *nine* balls to *six*, every *second* unfair ball being called, instead of every third, as before. The practical working of this section is as follows: If the umpire perceives that the first ball sent in is not over the base, he must count—not call—the ball as the first unfair ball; and if the *second* ball delivered is not over the base—or, if over the base, not at the height called for—he must then call "one ball." He then goes on to count the third unfair ball sent in, and on the delivery of the fourth he calls "two balls." Again counting the fifth wide ball, when the sixth is delivered he calls "three balls," and then he gives the batsman his base. The unfair balls are to be called in the order of their delivery; and if six unfair balls should happen to be sent in in succession, the batsman would have his base given him on called balls after the delivery of *six* instead of *nine* balls to the bat, every *second* unfair ball being called instead of every third, as before. This admits of ample latitude for strategic play on the part of the pitcher, and does not cramp his movements at all, while it prevents a loss of time by an unnecessary wild delivery.

BALKING.

7. Should the pitcher make any motion to deliver the ball to the bat, and fail so to deliver it—except the ball be accidentally dropped—the umpire shall call a "balk," and players occupying bases shall then take one base, *whether the occupant be forced off or not.*

The amendment simply makes the wording of the section plainer than it was before, inasmuch as it was interpreted last year as allowing base-runners to take a base on a ball only when they were forced off, whereas the rule has always been to give every base-runner a base on a balk. In the case of called balls it is amply sufficient that one base be given on the called balls, and in doing this it of course follows that all base-runners "forced" off by the giving of the first base should take a base; but in case a base-runner is on third base, and one on first, while the second is unoccupied, and the batsman be given his base on called balls, in such case only the player forced off takes a base, the base-runner on third not taking a base. In the case of a "balk" being called under such circumstances, the player on third—whether forced off or not—would also take a base, the penalty being greater for an unfair delivery than for inaccuracy in pitching.

HITTING AT CALLED BALLS.

8. Should the batsman strike at a ball on which a "ball" shall have been called, such ball shall be considered void, and the ball be regarded as fairly delivered.

We now come to the section applicable to dead balls; and here we find occasion for comment on the subject, and the necessity for a revision of that section.

There are several points of play connected with the application of the rule governing "dead" balls. In the first place, the ball is partially dead when it is struck foul, as no base can be run, or run scored on such a ball, until it be settled in the hands of the pitcher. Secondly, the ball is also "dead" when it is pitched so as to hit the batsman's person while the latter is standing in his position. Thirdly, it is "dead" when it is stopped by outsiders, in which case it is not in play again until held by the pitcher while he stands within the lines of his position. And lastly, it is dead when it is stopped by a fielder with his hat or cap. The section referring to dead balls is not now so complete as it should be, and we propose to embody another section to it with a view to make it cover the whole ground:

DEAD BALLS.

9. Any ball delivered to the bat which shall either touch the striker's bat without being struck at, or hit the batsman's person while standing in his position, or which shall hit the person of the umpire—unless it be a passed ball—shall be considered as a dead ball, and shall be so called by the umpire, and no player shall be put out, base be run, or runs be scored on any such ball. Also, if any fielder stop or catch the ball with his hat or cap, or any other part of his dress, the umpire shall call "dead ball," and such ball shall not be alive or in play again until *the pitcher has delivered it to the batsman.* But any player running a base at the time said ball was so stopped or caught shall be entitled to the base he is running for. Should the ball be willfully stopped by any person not engaged in the game, the umpire shall call "dead ball," and the ball shall be regarded as dead until settled in the hands of the pitcher while standing within the limits of his position; and players running bases at the time shall be entitled to all the bases they *can make before the ball is in play.*

The junction of section 14 of the seventh rule with the above section makes the rule more comprehensive than it was before. The amendments in the wording will be seen to be necessary when the points of play involved are considered. In the first place, the part of the section referring to a ball made dead by being stopped by the player's cap now reads so as to make the ball dead until "the umpire shall call ball in play." This is giving the umpire too great a discretionary power; and we amend the rule so as to make the ball dead until it has been once more delivered to the batsman by the pitcher. In the last line of the section, too, the original wording was such as to give base-runners such bases only as they "were running for;" consequently, if a player was on first when a ball was stopped by outsiders, he could only take the second base, whereas he ought to be entitled to all the bases he can make on the foul fielding—for foul-play it is to allow outsiders to stop a wildly thrown or overpitched ball.

CLUB RECORDS.

NASSAU CLUB OF BROOKLYN.

Date	Game	Nassau	Opponent
July 3	Nassau vs. National	17 to	3
Aug. 3	Nassau vs. Tuttle & Bailey	10	3
Aug. 6	Nassau vs. Field	32	4
Aug. 10	Nassau vs. Keystone	15	19
Aug. 20	Nassau vs. Remsen	8	6
Aug. 23	Nassau vs. Leo	6	2
Aug. 27	Nassau vs. Americus	15	2
Aug. 28	Nassau vs. Tuttle & Bailey	5	9
Aug. 31	Nassau vs. Eagle	4	2
Sept. 2	Nassau vs. Confidence	9	18
Sept. 3	Nassau vs. Chatham	9	13
Sept. 7	Nassau vs. Leroy	4	0
Sept. 9	Nassau vs. Frontier (forfeit)	9	0
Sept. 14	Nassau vs. Keystone (10 innings)	16	18
Sept. 15	Nassau vs. Alert	9	2
Sept. 16	Nassau vs. Star	12	14
Sept. 17	Nassau vs. Niagara	52	4
Sept. 21	Nassau vs. Chelsea	8	14
Sept. 22	Nassau vs. Washington	9	3
Sept. 23	Nassau vs. Chatham	9	11
Sept. 25	Nassau vs. Union (13 innings)	2	8
Sept. 30	Nassau vs. Leroy	7	6
Oct. 5	Nassau vs. Star	3	10
Oct. 8	Nassau vs. Prospect	14	3
Oct. 22	Nassau vs. Osceola	13	4
		300	174

Averages.

	Games.	Av.R.	Av.1B.H.	Av.P.O.	Av.A.	Av.E.
S. Smith, c. & s. s.	24	2.07	2.06	5.15	0.24	2.13
Gassert, 2d b.	24	2.00	2.06	2.04	4.05	1.13
Denham, 1st b.	24	2.00	2.06	6.00	0.15	0.03
McCord, c. f.	24	1.03	1.52	1.04	1.00	0.03
Ryan, l. f. and p.	24	0.90	1.50	1.03	1.10	0.02
Edler, l. f.	21	1.95	0.85	1.02	1.02	0.04
Redmaine, 3d b.	20	2.00	2.06	1.05	3.06	1.05
Britt, p.	15	1.83	2.00	1.11	2.15	0.09
Dunn, 3d b. & s. s.	10	1.83	1.85	1.04	3.01	1.08
Galpine, 3d b. & p.	9	2.10	1.75	2.00	3.11	1.10
D. Smith, c. & 2d b.	8	0.54	1.20	3.10	1.20	2.10
Wiggins, r. f.	7	0.20	0.90	1.00	0.02	2.09
Hanover, c. & r. f.	5	1.00	1.00	2.11	0.13	1.90
Muller, s. s.	5	1.00	1.00	1.15	3.11	1.08

MUTUAL OF MEADVILLE, PA.

VICTORIES.

Game	Mutual	Opponent
Mutual vs. Neshannock of New Castle	19 to	9
Mutual vs. Easton of Easton	17	5
Mutual vs. Union of Newark, N. J.	6	5
Mutual vs. Oil City	10	5
Mutual vs. Union of Mercer	17	5
Mutual vs. Oil City	19	6
Mutual vs. Neshannock	15	7
Mutual vs. Resolute of Renovo	24	8
Mutual vs. Braddock	10	7
Mutual vs. Braddock *	9	0
Mutual vs. Xantha of Pittsburg	9	8
Mutual vs. Xantha	12	7
Mutual vs. Union of Mercer *	9	0

—* Forfeited.

DEFEATS.

Game	Mutual	Opponent
Mutual vs. Xantha	3	7
Mutual vs. Mountain City of Altoona	12	19
Mutual vs. High Boys of Harrisburg	10	15
Mutual vs. Active of Reading	6	11
Mutual vs. Doerr of Philadelphia	3	5
Mutual vs. Shibe of Philadelphia	4	10
Mutual vs. Trenton of Trenton	3	8
Mutual vs. Chelsea of Brooklyn	4	13
Mutual vs. T. B. F. U. S. of Bridgeport	2	16
Mutual vs Oil City	6	7
Mutual vs. Union of Mercer	14	17

AVERAGES.

	Games.	T. at Bat.	Base Hits.	Runs.	Av. B. H. to T. at B.	Av. Runs to Games.	Put Out.	Assisted.
J. McClintock, c.	24	108	43	32	.398	1.33	140	39
J. L. Quest, 3d b.	9	45	15	18	.333	2.00	27	19
W. R. McCoy, c f.	20	97	29	24	.299	1.20	26	7
L. Woodward, l f.	8	41	12	13	.292	1.62	10	3
W. H. Rose, s s.	15	79	23	28	.291	1.86	20	38
W. P. Ellis, 2d b.	23	103	28	22	.271	0.95	61	34
W. W. Branyan, l f.	13	54	13	11	.240	0.84	14	3
C. W. Lane, p.	23	98	23	16	.234	0.69	35	45
W. McClintock, r f.	24	117	26	29	.222	1.20	62	22
G. Fountain, 1st b.	20	83	18	14	.216	0.70	190	3
G. Hapgood, r f.	9	43	9	9	.209	1.00	17	17
R. E. McKelvey, 3d b.	12	56	11	13	.196	1.08	45	35

RESOLUTE B. B. C. OF RENOVO, PA.—FRANK QUEEN—*Dear Sir:* At a meeting of the Resolute Baseball Club of Renovo, Pa., the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, P. H. Sullivan; vice-president, F. M. Elliott; secretary, John O'Connell; treasurer, Wm. A. Caldwell; directors—Samuel L. Hain, George W. Hitz, and James Huston. The directors are looking around for a suitable building in which to open a gymnasium for catcher and pitcher to practice in. They will place one of the strongest nines in the field next season that there are in the State, and intend taking another extended trip, but, instead of going West, expect to go East. They also intend trying to make arrangements so that they can remain at least one week in or around Philadelphia during the Centennial. Our nine are at present: Erischer, formerly of Reading, Pa., catcher; Ward, pitcher; Hain, 1st b.; Howard, 2d b.; Hartranft, 3d b.; Friel, s s.; Armstrong, Quinn and Sinnott in the outfield, with several good substitutes. In the above nine we have taken your advice, and have three good catchers and two good pitchers. It may be somewhat changed, but I cannot see how it could be improved upon. Yours, LEWIS.

THE STANDARD CLUB of Wheeling, which, though only two years in existence, has by good play secured the championship of West Virginia, has made application to the Amateur Association for membership, and proposes to play only first-class clubs during 1876.

CLIPPER VARIETIES.

Comprising Ballads, Songs and Dances, Comic Songs, Old Bills, etc.

WRITTEN AND COLLATED EXPRESSLY FOR THE CLIPPER.

A FEW MATTERS OF MINOR IMPORTANCE.

BY J. J. McDERMOTT.

INTERLOCUTOR.—Bones, do you read the papers much now?

BONES.—Well, I don't git much time now; I'se hed a lawr-suit on hand.

INT.—Indeed! What's that about?

BONES.—Why, you know de cross-eyed cobbler wot libs up yer in Donavan's Lane?

INT.—I can't say that I do. What part?

BONES.—Why, in de uppa story ob de *last* house, right near de lef'-han' side facin de ——.

INT.—Oh, yes; I've heard of him. You haven't had trouble with him, have you?

BONES.—Yas, indeed. I lef' a par ob shoes up dar las' month to git fixed, an' dey hedn't ben in de shop two weeks 'fore he sol(e)d 'em.

INT.—You don't mean to say he sold your shoes?

BONES.—Yas, indeed; he sol(e)d dem shoes.

INT.—I think you did perfectly right in sueing the old scoundrel.

BONES.—Yas; but, don't yer see, it's de ole scoundrel dat's sued me.

INT.—What for?

BONES.—Fo' de 'mount ob de bill.

INT.—What bill?

BONES.—De bill for soling de shoes.

INT.—You say you brought this cobbler a pair of shoes to be fixed, and he sold the shoes.

BONES.—I fotch de shoes dar to git a par ob soles.

INT.—That'll do, Bones; come down to the house to-morrow and I'll help you out.

TAMBO.—Why, say, Bonesey, dat ole feller's a *pump* mender by trade.

BONES.—Dat's what I t'ought. Say, Mr. Jackson, talking about shoes, kin you tell me what kind ob a *gaiter* pinches de wust?

INT.—I couldn't say; can you, Tambo?

TAM.—Oh, dat's 'nudder Donovan's Lane gag.

INT.—Well, Bones, what kind of a gaiter does pinch the worst?

BONES.—Alligator.

INT.—Tambo, how did you get out of that Pennsylvania scrape you got into up in the coal regions last Spring?

TAM.—What scrape?

INT.—Weren't you arrested up there last Spring for selling liquor to *minors?*

TAM.—Oh, no; dat was a false 'larm. I was up dar as trabblin' agent fur Mister Hill.

INT.—What did he want with an agent there?

TAM.—Why, he sent me up dar to look fur some *strikers.*

BONES.—Oh, go 'long, Tam; why, dem fellers jist kem from dere.

INT.—And I suppose, Tambo, you soon discovered that they'd rather "bear the ills they have than fly to others they know not of?"

TAM.—I dunno; but I reckon dey got 'em now.

INT.—Yes, indeed. There's a great deal of misery there now, and the Winter makes it still worse.

BONES.—Now, Mr. Jackson, I don't see how dat is. I figger it out dat dar should be mo' work dar jist now dan any part ob de yeah.

INT.—Why so, Bones?

BONES.—Kase I reckon dis yer's bes' season ob de yeah to' co(a)l(d).

INT.—Gentlemen, your remarks are too, shallow. I think Signor Bosso Tweedora could interest us more with

A Song of Christmas.

TO E. C. DUNBAR, BY G. B. HARCOURT.

Old Christmas has come round again
With slow and steady pace,
And, though the winds may blust'ring blow
We welcome his old face;
The fire is bright, each heart is light,
The bells peal forth a chime:
Then let us welcome with a song
The merry Christmas-time.

The wintry winds may blow around,
The snowflakes thickly fall,
But still old Christmas-cheer goes round
In cottage and in hall;
And long may friends together meet
To join in jovial rhyme,
And happy faces often greet
The merry Christmas-time.

Then to the old and to the young,
The merry, grave or gay,
We wish a happy time to all,
'Neath friendship's kindly sway;
And so, while mirth and pleasure reign,
We'll join in jovial rhyme,
And hail the bonny mistletoe
And merry Christmas-time.

GREAT STARS PERFORMING To Bad Business in Washington, D. C., in 1823.

H. N. D. sends us a brace of bills of performances given as above, copies of which we append. He informs us that the receipts on the occasion of Mr. and Mrs. Duff's benefit amounted to only $165, and the combined attraction of J. B. Booth and Mr. and Mrs. Duff drew only $102. It should be borne in mind, however, that the performances took place in midsummer. Of the artists who appeared, Henry Wallack died in this city Aug. 30, 1870; F. C. Wemyss also died here Jan. 5, 1859; John Jefferson, who was the youngest son of the noted comedian Joseph Jefferson, died in Harrisburg, Pa., Sept. 4, 1831, from the effects of a fall during a performance; Thomas Jefferson, who was the eldest son of the comedian above referred to, died in Philadelphia in 1824; Joseph Jefferson Jr., who was the second son of this comedian and the father of the present comedian of the same name, now acting Rip Van Winkle in London, Eng., died in Mobile, Ala., in 1842—he acted but little until his latter years, giving his attention principally to scene-painting; Mr. Wheatley was an Irishman by birth, and first appeared on the American stage in Boston, Mass., acting Careless in "The School for Scandal," Oct. 6, 1817—he went afterwards to Philadelphia, where he remained until 1829, and then went South. The last record of him is that in 1833 he was keeping a music-store in Mobile, Ala. [It was this Mr. Wheatley who performed the Earl of Northumberland in "Richard II," when that tragedy was produced in Philadelphia, Jan. 22, 1819, and not Frederic Wheatley, as was erroneously stated in a past issue in commenting upon that production.] He married Mrs. Williams, who was afterwards known to the New York stage as Mrs. S. Wheatley, a high-comedy actress, who should not be confounded with the Mrs. Wheatley (the mother of the well-known William Wheatley) who played old women; Mrs. Duff died in this city Sept. 5, 1857, according to the records of Greenwood Cemetery; John Duff died in Philadelphia, April, 1831; John Darley died there in 1853; Thomas Burke died in Baltimore, Md., in 1824; Mrs. Euphemia Anderson was the eldest daughter of the elder Jefferson, and the mother of Mrs. Thoman-Saunders, now acting in California, and Mrs. G. C. Germon, now playing in Baltimore—she died about 1831; Mrs. Henry Wallack died in New Orleans, La., April 10, 1836; Mrs. Jefferson, who was the wife of the elder Jefferson, died in Philadelphia in January, 1831; J. B. Booth died Nov. 23, 1852, on the steamboat J. W. Chenoworth, while en route from New Orleans, La., to Cincinnati, O.; William Francis died in Philadelphia in 1826; Mrs. Francis also died there in 1834.

WASHINGTON THEATRE.
MR. AND MRS. DUFF'S BENEFIT,
and last night of their appearance.
ON SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 12, 1823,
will be presented (by particular desire) the celebrated tragedy of
PIZARRO, OR THE DEATH OF ROLLA.

SPANIARDS.

Pizarro......Mr. H. Wallack	Gomez......Mr. Murray
Alonzo......Mr. Wemyss	Las Casas......Mr. Wheatley
Davilla......Mr. J. Jefferson	Castilian soldier,
Valverde......Mr. Johnston	Mr. Hathwell
Almagro......Mr. T. Jefferson	Elvira......Mrs. Duff
Gonzalo..Mr. J. Jefferson Jr.	

PERUVIANS.

Rolla......Mr. Duff	Orano......Mr. Scrivenor
Ataliba......Mr. Darley	Boy......Miss H. Hathwell
Orozembo......Mr. Burke	Alonzo's Child. Master Jones
Old Blind Man. Mr. Hathwell	Cora......Mrs. Anderson

To which will be added the interlude of
SYLVESTER DAGGERWOOD, THE MAD DUNSTABLE ACTOR.
Cæsar Sylvester Dyonisius Daggerwood......Mr. Duff
in which he will give imitations of the following celebrated actors: Mr. Kemble in Hamlet, Mr. Cooke in Richard III, Mr. Kean in Othello, Mr. Munden in Sir Abel Handy, and Mr. Holman in Jaffier.
Fustian, an author......Mr. Hathwell
Servant......Mr. Scrivenor

After which (for the first time here) a new comic interlude called
IS HE JEALOUS? OR A PEEP INTO THE BOUDOIR.

Mr. Belmour....Mr. Wemyss	Harriet......Mrs. Anderson
Mrs. Belmour. Mrs. H. Wallack	Rose......Mrs. Jefferson

WASHINGTON THEATRE.
MR. BOOTH'S FOURTH NIGHT.
And the last of his engagement.
ON THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 24, 1823,
will be presented Shakespeare's celebrated tragedy of
KING LEAR AND HIS THREE DAUGHTERS.
King Lear......Mr. Booth

Burgundy...Mr. J. Jefferson	Captain of Guard,
Cornwall......Mr. Darley	Mr. Scrivenor
Albany......T. Jefferson	Physician,
Gloster......Mr. Hathwell	Mr. J. Jefferson, Jr.
Kent......Mr. Wheatley	Knights. Murray, Parker, etc.
Edgar......Mr. Duff	Cordelia......Mrs. Duff
Edmund......Mr. Johnston	Regan......Mrs. Francis
Gentleman Usher. Mr. Burke	Goneril......Mrs. Jefferson
Old Man......Mr. Francis	Aranthe......Miss Hathwell

To which will be added the farce of
WHERE SHALL I DINE?

Sponge......Mr. Wemyss	Surgeons,
Grumpy......Mr. Francis	Scrivenor and Murray
Dick Discount......Mr. Darley	Mrs. Grumpy...Mrs. Francis
Squire Flint...Mr. Wheatley	Dorothea Grumpy,
Homely......Mr. Hathwell	& Mrs. H. Wallack
Fawnwell......Mr. Johnston	Mrs. Discount. Mrs. Jefferson
Diggory......Mr. Burke	Deborah......Mrs. Murray
Timothy......Mr. J. Jefferson	Cook......Miss Hathwell
Bailiff...Mr. J. Jefferson Jr.	

Mr. Booth's benefit and last appearance on Saturday evening.

The doors will be open at half-past six, and the curtain will *raise* at half-past seven o'clock.

Tickets to be had at the office in front of the theatre; at Messrs. Davis & Force's bookstore; at the drug-stores of Messrs. William Gunton and John Duckworth; and at B. O. Tyler's lottery and exchange office, Pennsylvania avenue. Checks not transferable. A variety of novelty in rehearsal.

E. De Krafft, printer, Seventh street, nearly opposite the Centre Market-house, Washington City.

WAITING FOR ME.

TO MISS EUGENIE PAUL, FORD'S THEATRE, BALTIMORE.
BY C. EDWIN DUDLEY.

When daylight is fading
From hillock and glen,
And the silver-voiced robin
Sings low down the fen,
In a moss-covered cottage
By the murmuring sea
Sits a sweet little maiden
Waiting for me.

Chorus.—Waiting for me down by the sea,
Where the wavelets are crooning a soft melody;
With heart full of glee I trip o'er the lea,
For I know there's a loved one waiting for me.

She's not blest with riches,
But oh! such a face,
Outvieing the lilies
In beauty and grace.
Ah! she's dearer to me
Than treasures untold—
So to-night I shall whisper
That sweet tale of old.

Chorus.—Down by the sea, down by the sea, etc.

CHRISTMAS-NIGHT at Laura Keene's Theatre in 1856.

Laura Keene's New Theatre, which had been built expressly for her, was first opened to the public on Nov. 18, 1856, with the comedy of "As You Like It." After managing it several years she withdrew, and was succeeded by Mrs. John Wood, who, in turn, gave place to James Hayes. A short time after his death it was converted into a variety theatre, under the proprietorship of John Duff, and it is now run as such under the title of the Olympic Theatre. During Miss Keene's management the theatre acquired a fine reputation, as she ever had first-class companies, and spared neither pains nor expense in mounting plays. To her persistent efforts is due the introduction of long runs of plays upon the American stage. "Our American Cousin" was played there one hundred and forty consecutive nights, and frequently after to the end of the season of 1858-9; and "The Seven Sisters," a spectacle, was performed for about one year consecutively. Miss Laura Keene died in Montclair, N. J., Nov. 4, 1873. Thomas Baker is still following his profession in this city. James G. Burnett died in Chicago, Ill. March 19, 1870. George Jordan died in London, Eng., Nov. 15, 1873. J. A. Smith is still before the public. M. V. Lingham is now acting in this city. Mr. Harcourt is performing in variety theatres. Mrs. W. H. Smith died in this city Sept. 25, 1861. Miss Ada Clifton is married, and living in retirement in this city. Charles Wheatleigh is acting in Australia. Henry McDouall died in Washington, D. C., June 18, 1870. Miss Cornelia Jefferson is living in retirement.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE,
624 Broadway, near Houston street.
Miss Laura Keene......Sole Lessee and Directress
Mr. Thomas Baker......Musical Director
Doors open at half past six. The performance will commence with the overture at seven o'clock.
GREAT TREAT FOR CHRISTMAS-NIGHT.
Reproduction and first night here of Sheridan Knowles' beautiful comedy
THE LOVE CHASE,
Powerfully cast.
First night of a romantic, dramatic production, borrowed from many dramatists, but chiefly from Boucicault, and supposed to be copyrighted in the usual manner, called
FIRST NIGHT, OR THE LIFE OF AN ACTRESS.
ON THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 25,
will be presented for the first time at this establishment, and with a powerful cast of characters, the beautiful comedy by Sheridan Knowles,
THE LOVE CHASE.

Sir William Fondlove,	Constance. Miss Laura Keene
Mr. Burnett	Widow Green,
	Mrs. W. H. Smith
Wildrake....Mr. G. Jordan	
Master Waller..Mr. J. Smith	Amelia......Miss Howell
Trueworth......Mr. Lingham	Phoebe......Miss Gray
Lash......Mr. Reeve	First Lady......Miss Winnie
John......Mr. Harcourt	Second Lady......Miss Wall

During the evening overtures on national airs, the celebrated Traviata Waltz, Irish quadrilles.
To conclude with the highly amusing extravaganza, copyrighted in the usual style, and borrowed from Boucicault, giving an insight into the arcana of the stage, called
FIRST NIGHT, OR THE LIFE OF AN ACTRESS.

Dufard......Mr. Wheatleigh	Shakerini......Mr. Alleyne
Flat......Mr. Burnett	Rose......Miss C. Jefferson
Fitzdangle......Mr. J. Smith	Arabella Fitzjames,
Parnassus......Mr. Lingham	Miss Ada Clifton
Vamp......Mr. McDouall	Miss Quiver...Miss Alleyne
Garrison......Mr. Hayes	

During the play, music, dancing, songs, etc.
In consequence of numerous applications, the beautiful, romantic drama
THE MARBLE HEART
will be reproduced at this establishment to-morrow evening.

SHE'LL BE WAITING FOR ME AT THE GATE.

DEDICATED TO CHARLEY LORD (OF HOGAN AND LORD),
BY WARD WOOD.

'Twas on a Sunday evening
In the merry month of May,
The moon was brightly beaming,
And the birds had flown away;
We were seated by the window—
"Pa and Ma" had gone to bed—
While I was whisp'ring love to Kate,
And this is what she said:

Chorus.—I'm hardly able to tell you, George,
But come here to-morrow at eight;
There is no one to fear—do come, that's a dear,
I'll be waiting for you at the gate.

I asked her just to say the word,
To name the happy day
That I could call around and take
My pretty bride away;
To give me just one ray of hope,
'Twould be both meat and bread
To feed my soul until that time—
But this is all she said:

Chorus.—I'm hardly able to tell you, George,
But come here to-morrow at eight;
If I make up my mind, and feel so inclined,
I'll be waiting for you at the gate.

So I must go around to-night
To meet this charmer fair,
This blue-eyed girl with teeth like pearl,
And wealth of golden hair.
If I succeed in winning her—
Though hard the task will be—
I hope you'll all call in and look
At pretty Kate and me.

Chorus.—I think she'll be able to tell to-night,
And I'll be there promptly at eight.
If she's to say "Yes!"—well, I rather guess,
She'll be waiting for me at the gate.

NIBLO & SLOAT'S NEW YORK CIRCUS IN 1860.

N. J. Morton of Taunton, Mass., sends us an advertisement of this show, cut from a local paper. William Niblo is living in retirement in this city. We cannot say whether John Sloat isdead or not, but think he is living. Mme. Marie and Mlle. Emma Madigan are both living. H. P. Madigan died in Kingston, Jamaica, Dec. 15, 1862. James and Master Charles Madigan are with James Myers' Circus, in Europe. Miss Iola (probably Ida) Madigan is now the wife of Andy Collum, banjoist. Sam Long was last season traveling with Forepaugh's show. N. P. Rogers, W. H. Ashton, the Denzer Brothers, Charley Shay and Asa Berry are living. The performing elephants went to South America some years ago, and we have not heard of them since.

NIBLO & SLOAT'S NEW YORK CIRCUS AND PERFORMING ELEPHANTS,
from Cook's Amphitheatre, London.
This company is selected from the most eminent performers of the Old and New World, prominent among whom will be found the
MADIGAN FAMILY.

Mme. Marie Madigan,	James Madigan,
Mlle. Emma Madigan,	Master Charles Madigan,
H. P. Madigan,	Miss Iola Madigan,

who have just returned from a very successful European tour, where they had the honor of appearing before the Queen and Royal Family at the Alhambra, London, May 24, 1858.
The best clown of the age,
SAM LONG,
who will bring forward an entire new budget of jokes, songs, witticisms, etc.
N. P. ROGERS, scenic rider and gymnast.
W. H. ASHTON, grotesque and acrobatic performer.
THE DENZER BROTHERS, from Rentz's German Amphitheatre, Hamburg.
VALENTINE DENZER, antipodean globe performer.
JACOB DENZER, stilt and trapeze performer.
CHARLES SHAY, Japanese juggler and knife-thrower.
ASA BERRY, maître du cirque.
THE MOTLEY BROTHERS.
NATHANIELS AND ASHTON.
J. DEVISE, D. RICHARDS, etc., etc.
Together with performing elephants
ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA,
who go through a great variety of performances, such as dancing, waltzing, playing the hand-organ, standing on their heads, mounting lofty pedestals, and other feats too numerous to mention. Will exhibit at
TAUNTON, MAY 10, 1860.
Admission 25 cents.
Performances at 2 and 7½ o'clock P. M.

CHIPS FROM THE CLIPPER.*

RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED TO MY FRIENDS JOHNSON AND BRUNO.
BY JAMES F. DOOLEY.

While strolling out, the other day, with "My Darling" "Ernestine,"
We met "The Two Professors" trying to "mash" one "Sweet Aileen;"
But 'tis "Uncle Pete's Opinion" that her "Laughing Eyes of Blue"
Had "A Very Taking Way," like "Violets Dipped in Dew."
Chorus—"Murphy, Lay Down—You're N. G."—(*Break.*)
And sing "Those Songs She Sang for Me." (*Break.*)
"The Ranting, Rollicking Mother-in-law," whose name is "Norah McGill,"
Took a terrible "Drop" the other day from "The Summit of the Hill."
There's a "Beautiful Angel of Love," whose name is "Lilly Lee"—
I swore I loved her dearly "Beneath the Chestnut Tree."
I told her I'd be as true as the stars "Up Dar in the Sky"—
She answered "Draw it Mild," old man; you can bet your rocks "I'm Fly."
Chorus.—"We're a Lively, Boneless, India-rubber Pair," (*Break.*)
"Loose and Careless," and as light as air. (*Break.*)
"Take, O Take Those Lips Away," said "Pretty Mollie Lee."
"When You've Showy Fixins On" then "I'll Remember Thee."
We've been called "The Nigs Par Excellence" by darling "Carrie Le Claire;"
And by that "Pretty Little Rose," they're "The Fascinating Pair."
"'Twas in the Purple Clover" I first saw "The Lively Hen"—
She was "Working Up" a straight jig to sing it at her "ben."
Chorus.—"Little Daisy," "Pearl of the Sea," (*Break.*)
"There's a Club 'Neath the Window for Thee." (*Break.*)
"Oh, Why Are You Weeping," dearest? "'Tis Sweeter to Smile than to Sigh"—
"There's a Letter in THE CLIPPER" advertised for "You and I."
Fall River, Mass.

*Composed of the titles of songs that have appeared in the present volume of THE CLIPPER, with but one exception—"You and I."

OUR "SAILOR BOYS" AS MINSTRELS.

The following correspondence is self-explanatory:

U. S. STEAMER KEARSARGE,
CHEE FOO, CHINA, Oct. 23, 1875.

FRANK QUEEN, ESQ.—*Dear Sir:* Inclosed you will please find programme of an entertainment given at this port by the "Kearsarge Minstrel Troupe." We shall feel under obligations to you if you will kindly give it a space in your "column of varieties," as THE CLIPPER has a very wide circulation throughout the U. S. fleet in Asiatic waters. Yours, very respectfully,

A. J. DEAN AND J. FARLEY, Managers
Kearsarge Minstrel Troupe.

In compliance with the above request we append a copy of the programme given, which is a neat lithograph.

ADELPHI THEATRE, CHEE FOO.
THE MINSTREL TROUPE OF THE U. S. STEAMER KEARSARGE
will give an entertainment at the above theatre this evening, TUESDAY, the 19th OCTOBER 1875.
PROGRAMME.—PART FIRST.
Opening Chorus......Company
Kitty Wells......Champion
Kiss Me Quick and Go......Wallace
Minute Gun at Sea......Smith
Cruel Jane Jemmima......Wilson
Minnie Lee......Collins
Railway Smash-up......Company
PART SECOND.
Dumb Oration......Bottger
Stump Speech......Childs
Clog Dance......Dean
Song, "Awfully Clever"......Champion
Intermission of ten minutes.
PART THIRD.
Double Dance-and-Song......Dean and Farley
The Troublesome Servant......Adams and Dean
Step Dance......Farley
Song, "Stranger in the City"......Howard
Dutch Song......Farley
PART FOURTH.
To conclude with the farce "Manager in a Fix."
Mr. Slocum, manager......Howard
Mr. Fitznoodle, comedian......Wallace
Mr. Funkey, general utility......Champion
Mr. Bradshaw, Irishman......Farley
Mr. Cloggs, dancer......Dean
Sambo, servant......Collins
Doors open at 7.30. Performance to commence at 8 o'clock.

ATTIRE OF MESOPOTAMIAN WOMEN.

The display of jewels in the ornamentation of the feminine apparel exceeds anything that I have yet seen, especially the singular, helmet-like head-dress which nearly covers the forehead and reaches down to the ears, thickly studded with pearls and edged with rows of gold coins. The silk veil worn in the house, which floats gracefully over the shoulders, is frequently edged with gold coins; and a profusion of precious stones, uncut and rudely set, are worn in rings and necklaces, and distributed upon various portions of the dress. As elsewhere in the East, the long braids of hair are heavily hung with coins. These ornaments are the "dowry" of the women, their own exclusive property, which the law cannot touch, and many a wife throughout the empire who wears upon her person more than enough to redeem her husband from the clamors of his creditors, or release him from prison, would not part with one of the precious coins for that purpose! As soon as a daughter is born, the mother, however poor, commences providing her dowry, adding piece by piece the coins of copper, silver or gold which she may have earned, or which have been handed down in the family as an heirloom for many generations. Such pieces represent far more than the current value of the coin to the wearer, and the loss of a silver or gold piece from her headdress would occasion great anxiety and an unwearied search, as our Saviour knew and probably had seen when He uttered the parable of the lost coin. Unmarried maidens are known by the veil of crimson silk, and the wealth and rank of her family are revealed by the jewels which she wears. Syrian women wear immense clasps of silver to their girdles, and the little tinkling silver bells upon the ankles of their younger children—which frequently disturb the Sunday service—were once worn by these Eastern ladies. These, with their stomachers, spangled ornaments, bracelets, headbands, and broad thumb rings of gold remind one of the elaborate description in the third chapter of Isaiah.

THE GAME OF CHESS.

To Correspondents.

HERR H. MEYER.—The estimation in which you hold the poem is very gratifying—you are at perfect liberty. Your last estimate has elicited some warm praises.

COL. A. Z. HUGGINS.—A thousand welcomes. You whet our chess appetite beyond the limits of patient endurance; is it well? Your prized opinions enable us to report. Never did committee act more unanimously.

S. S. NICHOLS.—We begin to believe Herr Mitter an unmittergated humbug—a myth; send a mittermus after him.

MAX JUDD.—Many thanks for your kindness. You seem to be in the same boat with the rest of us, though with a peculiarly severe oar.

W. H. SAYER.—"Fight," indeed! Yes; more free than fancy, we think.

C. C. BARNES.—Welcome, as always. Will note the collection, and do the errand with much pleasure.

PRAXIS.—1. We are unable to answer. 2. There is not, Of the two in the country, one we cannot recommend, and the other we never see.

A. E. DOGG.—The key to Prob. 991 is 1..Kt to Q B 4.

FRANK CROMWELL.—Three letters received. Both Nos. 991 right; do. Enig. 988; we have no reason to distrust Enig. 989, and decline going back to a prob. three or four years old—except to say that you are, probably, wrong.

ASK WM. A. SHINKMAN, Grand Rapids, Mich. Certainly, a solver may and will try to defend himself by making a Kt, or any other piece he can, of a Pawn.

O. S. L., Syracuse.—Like many other beginners, you are entirely mistaken in the position you assume.

D. T. BROCK.—We thought you would see the error into which you had fallen. That little chess sonnet was so extensively reprinted that we did not examine each particular copy.

B. WESTERMAN & CO.—All right.

R. FOX, Hanover, N. H.—We have no single work. Some years ago we made a translation and compilation for Prof. Quimby, who would, no doubt, show it to you.

G. W. TUCKER, M. D.—Welcome to the corps of our contributors; we will endeavor to comply with your request.

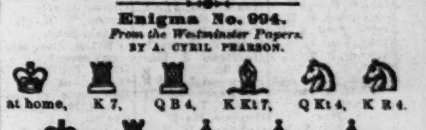
GEO. E. CARPENTER.—We cannot debar ourselves the pleasure of repeating what a most prized contributor says. Read: "C.'s recent letter through THE CLIPPER is one of the most sensible articles on chess that I have read for years. In that he places problem-making on its true footing—in every respect—in exact accordance with my ideas. But is there not a little backing-down in the article from some of his former sweeping diatribes?"

A. TOWNSEND, Eng.—We are requested to say: "C. C. B. has never received an answer to his last, although he infers that you received it, as the catalogue asked for came duly."

T. D. S. MOORE.—Received just at closing this copy. Many thanks.

Enigma No. 994.

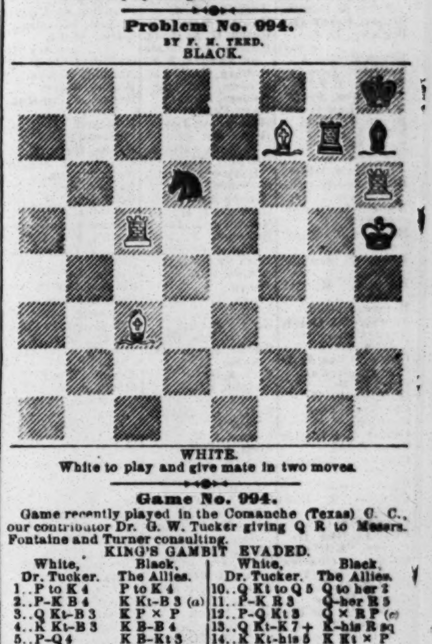
From the Westminster Papers.
BY A. CYRIL PEARSON.



White to play and give mate in three moves.

Problem No. 994.

BY F. H. TEED.
BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play and give mate in two moves.

Game No. 994.

Game recently played in the Comanche (Texas) C. C., our contributor Dr. G. W. Tucker giving Q R to Messrs. Fontaine and Turner consulting.

KING'S GAMBIT EVADED.

White, Dr. Tucker.	Black, The Allies.	White, Dr. Tucker.	Black, The Allies.
1..P to K 4	P to K 4	10..Q Kt to Q 5	Q to her 2
2..P-K B 4	K Kt-B 3 (a)	11..P-K R 3	Q-her R 5
3..Q Kt-B 3	K P × P	12..P-Q Kt 3	Q × R P (c)
4..K Kt-B 3	K B-B 4	13..Q Kt-K 7 +	K-his R sq
5..P-Q 4	K B-Kt 3	14..K Kt-his 5	K Kt × P
6..Q B × P	Castles	15..K B × Kt	Q P × B
7..K B-B 4	P-Q 3	16..K-K R 5	K B × P +
8..P-K 5	Q-K 2	17..K-his R sq	P-K R 3, and
9..Castles	K Kt-his 5 (b)	Dr. T. mates in three.	

(a) If bound to evade the gambit, we counsel P to Q 4.
(b) With what expectations?
(c) They bind themselves hand and foot, and give themselves over to certain destruction.

A Queer Chessikin.

From the Buffalo Globe.

Geo. H. Thornton gives a tyro the odds of both Kt's and Q R.

KING'S B'S OPENING.

Mr. Thornton.	Tyro.	Mr. Thornton.	Tyro.
1..P to K 4	P to K 4	7..R × K P +	K B to K 2
2..K B-B 4	K Kt-B 3	8..R × Q P	Q B-Q 2
3..Castles	Kt × K P	9..Q-R 5 +	P-K Kt 3
4..K R-K sq	P-K B 4	10..Q-K R 6	P-Q B 3
5..P-Q 3	P-Q 4	11..K R-Q 4	Q-her Kt 3
6..K B-Kt 3	K Kt-his 4	12..Q-K Kt 7	K Kt-B 3,

and White announces mate in four moves.

CHEQUERS.

To Correspondents.

A. B. M., Philadelphia.—Yes; Mr. Sweet has purchased the entire collection of draught clippings lately in possession of M. J. Hazeltine, Esq., containing a complete file of all the chequer positions and games published in THE CLIPPER, besides many others. After completing his scrap-books, he will inform you regarding the duplicates.

O. G.—So far as we can learn, Anderson's work is not obtainable just at present—at least, in this country. Yes; Ed. James can procure any book in the market.

AMATEUR.—For a diagram of numbering the board see CLIPPER dated Dec. 18.

T. M. O'NEIL.—Position No. 37 correct, as published. See solution in CLIPPER of following week.

WM. FLEMING.—Yes; if a player omits to jump an exposed man, his opponent may take off his man, or insist upon the capture.

D. W. MAHER.—Correct.

C. BALL.—The end-games shall receive immediate attention.

H. O. B.—Thank you. Will examine.

L. W. BRECK.—After the collection has been overhauled and arranged, we will report as to what remains.

R. B. ARNOLD.—Received.

JAMES BRYER.—Diagram received. We like their appearance.

J. E. W., J. CARBARY AND W. STILL.—Positions received, and will be examined.

W. E. WELLINGTON.—Correct.

CHALLENGE.—In view of the fact that Mr. Jacob Saunders has freely expressed his opinion regarding other chequer players and myself, I hope he will accommodate me by accepting this challenge. I will play him a match of 25 or 50 games, draws and wins to count; or, if his courage should be shaken at this proposal, I will give him 5 wins in 50 games, draws and wins to count. This challenge to remain open until Dec. 25. T. F. GILDAY.
Lowell, Mass., Dec. 15, 1875.

THE GLASGOW CHALLENGE MEDAL.—In the recent match between Messrs. Bryden and Lewis for this trophy, the former gentleman retained it. Score—Bryden, 2; Lewis, 0; drawn, 3. Mr. King, the winner of the first prize in the tournament of 1873, has challenged the winner for its possession.

THE TROY CLUB, we learn, is in a very active and flourishing condition.

Game No. 39.—Vol. 23.

Played between Mr. R. Hofman and Mr. Wm. Schmidt. Forwarded by Mr. Rudolph Hofman.

"MAID OF THE MILL."

Black, Mr. H.	White, Mr. S.	Black, Mr. H.	White, Mr. S.
1..11 to 15	22 to 17	12..12 to 19	27 to 23
2..8 11	17 13	13..19 26	30 7
3..15 18	23 14	14..3 10	28 24
4..9 18	26 23 (a)	15..5 9	17 13
5..10 15 (b)	23 14	16..10 14	13 6
6..6 9	13 6	17..1 10	24 20
7..2 18	25 22	18..10 15	32 27
8..18 25	29 22 (c)	19..15 19	27 23
9..4 8	24 20	20..19 26	31 22
10..7 10	22 17	21..14 18	22 15
11..15 18	20 16 (d)	22..11 18	20 16

Drawn.

NOTES BY ED. D. D.

(a) 21-17 or 25-21 also draws. See Variations Nos. 1 and 12, Anderson's Second Edition. (b) 10-14 also draws. See Anderson's model game. We do not find 10-15 in either Anderson or Spayth, at this stage of the game. (c) From this point, with ordinarily careful play, the game appears to be a draw. (d) Well played. Learners will observe this manœuvre, which aims at drawing the game, hastening its termination at the same time.

Solution of Position No. 38.—Vol. 23.

BY JNO. CUMMINS.

Black.	White.	Black.	White.
1..11 to 15	18 to 11	4..20 to 11	2 to 9
2..16 19	23 16	5..1 5	27 20
3..2 7	11 2	6..5 23, Black wins.	

Solution of Enigma No. 38.—Vol. 23.

BY A. R. GREGG.

White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1..32 to 27	31 to 24	4..6 to 9	5 to 14
2..23 18	14 23	5..7 2	14 7
3..15 11	8 15	6..2 11, White wins.	

Enigma No. 39.—Vol. 23.

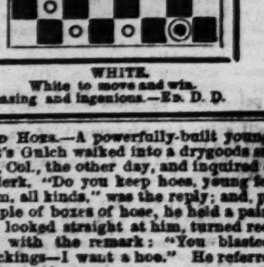
BY W. UPHAM.

Black men on 16, 20 and 22. Black King on 15.
White men on 10, 11, 27 and 31.
White to move and win.

Neat and practical.

Position No. 39.—Vol. 23.

BY A. DEAN.
BLACK.



WHITE.
White to move and win.
Highly pleasing and ingenious.—ED. D. D.

HOSE AND HOES.—A powerfully-built young lady from Ghost's Gulch walked into a drygoods store at Canon City, Col., the other day, and inquired of the bachelor clerk, "Do you keep hoes, young feller?" "Yes, ma'am, all kinds," was the reply; and, pulling down a couple of boxes of hose, he held a pair up to view. She looked straight at him, turned red, and overflowed with the remark: "You blasted fool, them's stockings—I want a hoe." He referred her to the hardware store.

"SLEEPIN', Tonald?" said a Highlander to a drowsy acquaintance, who was ruminating on the grass in a horizontal position. "No, Tuncan," was the ready answer. "Then, Tonald, would you lend me ten shillings?" was the next question. "Ough, ough!" was the response, with a heavy snore; "I'm sleepin' noo, Tuncan, my lad."

A DARKY who was stopping to wash his hands in a creek didn't notice the peculiar actions of a goat just behind him; so, when he scrambled out of the water, and was asked how it happened, he answered: "I dunno 'zactly; but 'peared as ef de shore kinder h'isted and frowed me."

THEATRICAL RECORD.

Movements, Business, and Incidents of the Theatrical, Circus, Musical, and Minstrel Professions.

THE CLIPPER POST-OFFICE.

A STAMPED ENVELOPE, plainly addressed, must be inclosed for each and every letter, and the line of business followed by the party addressed should be given, in order to prevent mistakes.

NOTE.—Professionals and others should bear in mind that by a recent change in the postal laws, all letters, etc., in transit between the United States and Canada, *must be prepaid*, otherwise they are not forwarded.

Letters received for week ending 5 P. M., MONDAY, Dec. 20.

LADIES' LIST.

Angelo, Clara
Braham, Lizzie
Bradley, Leonora
Brown, Miss L. (of Howe's Cir.)
Bateman, Alice
Bowers, Maggie
Baker, Mrs. S. A.
Balto, Mrs. A.
Burt, Fannie
Brandt Sisters
Clifton, Hattie (late with Mac Evoy)
Carlisle, Ida
Claire, Maggie
Carfano, Mrs.
Crabtree, Lotta
Curtis, Irene
Delarine, Annie
Delmay, Le-la
Davis, Ella
Dearden, Fannie
De Yoo, Adele
De Vere, Lou
Estelle, Lottie
Elberts, Kittie
Florence, Mrs. G. A.
Florance, Gertie (of Martino Co.)
Farnsworth, Abbie
Forrest, Lillian (vocalist)
Ferguson, Mrs. Della
Granville, Gertie
Gleason, Mrs. Alice
Holmes, Lizzie
Hasson, Sadie
Hall, Annie
Howitt, Belle (2)
Hall, Mrs. Lillie
Hall, Mrs. Minnie
Heart, Flora (of Heart Family) 3c.
Howard, May
Herbert, Carrie (2)
Howard, Jessie (of Boston Com. Co.)
Iford Sisters
Kellogg, Alice
Lamonte, Ada
Laurent, Ada
Leak, Annie
Leslie, Jennie (vocalist)
Lindsey, Jennie (vocalist)
Monzert Sisters
Morris, Clara
Mordaunt, Marion
Maflin, Mrs. J.
Mitchell, Mary (song-and-dance)
Mayhew, Kate
May, Fannie
Marshall, Clara
McHenry, Mrs. (of Troubadore Co.)
Marshall, Mrs. W. J.
Neville, Emma J.
Nelson, Lizzie
O'Brien, Norah (of Healy's Co.) (2)
Parento, "Dot" (trapezeist)
Richards, Belle
Rainer, Louise
Renard, Celia
Roach, Katie M.
Stockman, Emma (comedienne)
Swinburne, Marie (2)
Snow, Lizzie (of "Black Crook" Co.)
Saunders, Ella
Suttor, Helena
Sanford, Lou
Stone, Lydia Kenyon
Turnour, Hepsy
Violetta—and Holland Bros.
Wallace, Agnes
Winard, Nellie
Washburn, Emma
Wilson, Eliza (of "Black Crook" Co.)
Wesley, May (of "Boston Star" Co.)
Washburn, Mrs. Kittie
Zoerner, Anna
Zephy, Millie
Zitella, Mlle.

GENTLEMEN'S LIST.

Arnold Bros.
Archer, Geo. A.
Arthur, Jos. (2)
Atwood, Capt. J. B.
Allen, Jas. D.
Ames, Emile
Aldrich, Frank J.
Armstrong, R. H.
Andre, Prof. A. E.
Aiken, Geo. L.
Barnum, P. T.
Blake, A. B.
Brennan, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. 15c.
Brimmer, L. C.
Barnie, Wm.
Belletti, Sig. A. 3c.
Bailey & Cooper
Benoit, Octave
Bruce, J.
Baker, P. F. (of Baker & Farron)
Bisbee, Frank (3)
Buckley, E. J. (actor)
Bernard, Gus A.
Benedict, Lew
Bascom, J. T.
Blackburn, Jos. W.
Blake, Lew C.
Byron, O. Doud
Burt, A. S.
Bray, Walter
Bryant, W. (of Bryant's Minst.)
Blanchard, H. (with Wagner)
Butler, H. (comedian)
Bernard, P. (manager)
Baker, T. Brougham
Beverly, M. C. Stuart
Batchelor, Geo.
Batchelor & Dorris
Boyd, Chas.
Clarke, H. G.
Crusoe, Chas. A. (2)
Craven, Stewart
Carr, E. M.
Carr, Frank H.
Campbell, Fred.
Cody, W. F.
Carter, J. Heneage
Carr, Frank
Cooper, J. E. (manager)
Clarke Bros.
Carlysle & Son, Prof.
Callender, Chas.
Chaplin, Geo. D.
Clarke, "Kit" (2)
Collins, Charles (Dutch "biz")
Church, H. L.
Clarke, Harry
Cardella, J. (ballet master) (2)
Coe, Chas.
Capis, L. (female impersonator)
Carson, Jr., "Kit"
Carson, Harry (show "biz")
Campbell, Frank G.
Cipriano, Sig. U.
Crager, Geo. C.
Carner, J. W.
Cole, W. W. (of Cole's Cir.)
Dalton, J. (with The Austins)
Dobson, F. B. (2)
Dixon, Geo. W.
Dunbar, E. C. (2)
Durand, W. W.
Dumont, Frank (2)
D'Ormer, Mons.
Doyle, J. E. (2)
Davis, J. Chas.
De Raine, Jno.
Davis, S. J.
Dore & Worland
Davis, H. L. (of Wildman's Co.)
Durand, Richard (minst. "biz")
Ellis, Saml. E.
Eckert, Prof. Jno
Elliott, Rich'd
Elenore, O. "Yankee"
Ehlider, Geo.
Finn, Jas. (equestrian)
Frost, Hyatt (5)
Fiore, Ferdinando
Forepaugh, Adam (2)
Fielding, Mr. and Mrs. Jno.
Franklyn, Edward
Forbes, Chas. (manager)
Forrester, G. W.
Freeman, Gus (2)
Fortesque, Geo. K. (2)
Francis, Sig. (juggler) 6c.
Ferris, Jno.
Fitzgerald, Danl.
Farron, T. J.
France, Sidney
Fulton, Jno. B.
Forepaugh, A. J.
Griffin & Rice
Guy, Jr., Geo.
Grady, G. G.
Goodhall, J. N. 3c.
Gerson, Edmund
Goldrich, P. C.
Gaylord, J. (of Gaylord's Minst.)
Garetta Family
Guy, Geo. R. (of Guy Family)
Gerry, D. S. (2)
Grinnell, Geo.
Gleason, Wm.
Gilbert, Harry
Gessler, R. (of London Show)
Gorman, R. (of Gorman & Romer)
Gastley, Thos.
Goroux, Emil
Gibbons, Frank A.
Good, T.
Gorman & Romer
Hosmer, Harry
Healey, Dr. Jno. E.
Harris, Fred. D. (2)
Homer, Prof.
Howard, Harry T.
Harrigan & Hart (2) 3c.
Heywood, J. (of "N. Y. Serenaders")
Hickey, Thos.
Hughes, Mark
Hubbard, D. R.
Hernandez, Arthur (2)
Hodges, D. B. (agent) (2)
Herndon, T. J.
Hunter, Prof. C. E.
Hatch, C. A. H. (2)
Hamilton, T. (late of Newark, N.J.)
Hoburg, Casper H.
Hicken, Harry 5c.
Hensel, Emil
Hart, Paul
Hammond, Jno.
Hicks, Mr. (of Mara's Minst.)
Harper, Thos. (of Harper & Stansil)
Hubbard, R. (of Enoch Arden Co.)
Hartley, T. H.
Holdsworth, Jas.
Heinrich, F. (with Dup. & Bened.)
Hart, H. (of Hart's Minst.) (2)
"Jeppe"
Jones, T. V. (2)
Joell, Thos.
Kidd's Patent Lights, Prop
Kehoe, Mr. (Indian clubs)
Kirk & Drew
Knight, F. (of Frayne's Co.)
Kelly, H. (minst. "biz")
Keane, J. H.
Kent, Frank (2) 3c
Kirk, R. F. (2)
Kenanne, E. (with Lannier)
Kelly, J. T. (Irish "biz")
King, T. C. (tragedian)
"King Sarbro"
Kelly, J. A. (of Connors & Kelly)
Kine, J. (of Kine Bros.)
Kent, Julian
Kirkwood, Jas. E
Lloyd, H. (late with Barnum)
Lennox, G. (clarionetist)
Little, Chas. (2)
Lee, J. H.
Levanion Bros.
Lord, C. (of Hogan & Lord)
Levit, Harry
Le Roy, Frank (vocalist)
Lee, H. V. (comed. etc.)
Lee, J. H. (of Adams & Lee) (2)
Little, Rich'd G.
Lamkins, H. (leaper)
Lucasie, Rudolfo
La Fond, Lew
Le Clair, Jas.
Lawton, Alf.
Leavitt, M. B.
Leopold, Geo.
Mack, J. W. (of Sheridan & Mack)
Magee, J. A. (with Healy)
Morrison, Lewis
McCann, J. Ray (2)
Mora, Carlo
Maryon, Theophilus
Marble, Ed.
McKay, Robt.
McLaughlin, Jas.
McGill, W. (of McGill & Strong)
Moulton, Harry
Murphy, J. E. (of Murphy & Mack)
Morgan, Jos. (musician)
Murphy & Mack
Murphy, Patrick
McBride, J.
Markham, H.
Morgan, W. B. (equestrian)
Morosco, Walter
McCall, W. (with McGill & Strong)
Morton, J. (of Walters & Morton)
Murphy, J. C. ("Toothless")
Masters, Ed.
Marion, Jas.
Mackey, David
Magee, Jno. A.
Murphy, Jno. C. ("bones")
McWade, Robt.
McGuire, Jno.
Murray, J. H. (circus prop.)
Montague, Harry
Morris, G. W. (genl. agent)
McGlynn, W. (with McGill & Strong)
Milligan & Lincoln
Mendel, Wm. 6c.
Marvel, Scott
Mack, Wm.
Nichols, E. T.
Norton, W. J. (of Howe's Cir.)
Naoni, Frank
Nathans, Jno. J.
O'Reardon, M.
Orrin, Geo. W. (2)
Oliver, Saml.
Ogden, W. R. (2)
Onzalo Bros.
O'Brian, Jno. (circus prop.)
Orrin, Ed. W.
Oliver, Jos. A.
Panorama of Ireland, Manager
Phelps, G. E.
Pullman Bros. (2)
Parker, Louis 3c.
Poole, E.
Pullman, H.
Parks, A. L.
Plunkett, Sr., Chas.
Philleo, Sebastian 2
Queen, Montgomery (2)
Quilter & Goldrich
Rankin, McKee
Rogers, Stevie
Reese, P. (minst. "biz")
Rowland, J. (trapezeist)
Rynar, Harry C.
Ray, Wm. & Maggie
Raynor Bros.
Rapier, Jno.
Robinson, H. (of Robins. Minst.)
Runnells, Jno G.
Rivers, Frank J.
Root, F. C.
Rowe, Jno. (musician)
Roome, Jas. D.
Rivers, Frank
Richards, B. (of Rothschild's Cir.)
Rhodes, Danl. R.
Roberts, Saml. (vocalist)
Robbins, Burr
Storey Bros.
Stanwood, H. (banjoist)
Stevens, Curly
Sells Bros.
Shoales, J. J.
Stanley, Ernest
Shaw, Geo. T.
Shirley, A. J.
Sage, Morris
Smith & Huber
Sands, Geo. E.
Stewart, T. A.
Shelley, Chas.
Sherman, Cicero
Stidger, T. F.
Smith, S. S.
Sebastian, Romeo
Scales, Benj. S.
Stone, Den
Stanton, Wm.
Scott, A. R.
Sayler, J. W.
Sherman, W. H. (agent)
Steck, J. (musician)
Shepparde, H. (of "Kit" Carson Co.)
Skannon, Miller & Crane
Shelly, Mr (side-show "biz")
Smith, Wm. (of "Big 4")
Sheeran, Jas.
Stanton, Mangus A.
Turner Bros.
Taylor, Prof. E. C.
Tyler, Geo. H.
Thornton, Chas.
Tremaine, Geo. R.
Talbott, Harry
Toomey, W. F.
Ulfner, Frank (2)
Vincent, Chas. A.
Winnett, Thos.
Wayne, F. R., or T. R.
Wise, F. L.
Wood & West
Wilson & Co., Geo. E.
Westfall, C. H.
Waite, Harry
Weer, Frank
Wheeler, S. O.
Williams, R. M.
Wood, Jno. B.
Williams, G. E. 10c.
White, W. W.
Washburne, E. S. (2)
Wildman, F. J. (2)
Wilkinson, Chas. (2)
Whitely, J. (of S. Denin Co.)
Western, Richard (minst. "biz")
Wilson, Fred. (minst. "biz")
Wootten & Anderson's Circus
Wilton, Ed. (circus "biz")
West, Frank (minst. "biz")
Willis, G. (late of Fox's, Philadel.)
Watkins, H. (of Southern circuit)
Waldron, Daniel (manager)
Welsh, Jas. (author)
Webster, J. (of Salsburg's Co.)
Williams, J. ("Lancashire Lad")
Whiting, Chas. & Annie
Waldron, Danl.
Weeks, Dr. T. W. 6c.
Walters, Chas.
Wing, Chas. A.
Young, Mr. (of Van Amburgh's Cir.)
Young, Chas. W.
Zera, Prof.

INTRODUCTORY OVERTURE.

MONDAY, Dec. 20, '75.

Monday before Christmas, and everything frozen tight and hard—as tight as the purses of some of our millionaires, and as hard as the hearts of professional misers. Let us hope that ere the Christmas dawns upon us the sun's genial rays and warmth may witness a general thaw, and that all classes and conditions of people may be made the happier thereby, for it is to the precious sunshine that we look for aid in the development of the bounties of the earth, for the softening of flinty natures, and for the kindling of a feeling of charity and humanity in the breasts of all mankind......Ah! if *all* debutants could have such friends, such smiles, such encouragement as buoyed up ex-Mayor Hall when he made his first appearance as a *real* actor on last Saturday night, we should have more good actors, more valuable artistic accessions to the stage, and more to be proud of in our histrionic ranks, than we can now boast of; but poverty and the consequent lack of friends to cheer them on in the mimic drama deprive the profession of many a hidden gem. With a house full of friends, and their hearts full of esteem and love and good wishes for the debutant, in the bright lexicon of Oakey Hall there could "be no such word as fail." It was a promiscuous assemblage which crowded the Park Theatre—a little of all sorts, as it were—from the high-toned man of letters to the lowly-born in the scale of manhood and morality, and who came into the world "too late for classification." The press, the bench, the bar—both kinds—music, the drama, "etcsetera," were all well represented, and the mutual-admiration society broke up at a seasonable hour, delighted with what they had seen and heard. In another column one of our associates tells the story of the play and the players. May the ex-Mayor and ex-bar-tender find the stage lines easier to handle than others less fortunate have found them, and may his end, like his beginning, be (a new) piece......Is the stage going backward, or is it society that is deteriorating? At our principal theatres, where the contemporaneous drama and genteel comedy find a habitation and a name, we notice that the plays produced owe much of their success to the pernicious ingredients of burglary, forgery, and ruffianism generally; and, though vice is dethroned and virtue triumphs in the end, nevertheless the low-life and criminal "ingredients" uplift the society-play of to-day, and start it on its destined way for a long and successful run. Alas! how low has fallen art! And yet Mister Matthew Morgan declares that his Comique Theatre is *devoted* to the cultivation of art, to the inculcation of a love for sculpture and painting and the graces. But so debased is human nature, so evil are the thoughts and desires of men, that Mr. Morgan's "classical tableaux" have brought down upon him and his studio the wrath of conservators of the public peace and morals and the Young Men's Christian Association. One of the artist's latest productions is the "Rock of *Ages*," as he calls it, personated by *youth* and beauty in silken fleshings. Alas! this may prove to be the rock on which he'll split; his "Judgment of Paris" may bring about the judgment of New York, and all his high ambitions end in chaos. Bear with us, fellow-students, while we offer a sample of the sister art of poesy:

NATURE AND ART.

Matt Morgan's *statuary*
Think our police a bore—
Which makes each *statue wary*
To *wear* a little more!

......The rollicking pantomime is what we like to see during the Christmas holidays, and already in the field we find "Nimble Nip" at the Olympic, with one hundred little children as auxiliaries. Lovely little children in innocent tableaux and beautiful groupings, with Clown and Pantaloon and Fairy Silvereyes and Princess Eversofair, and all that galaxy of youth and beauty and nature's gems that help to make up the realms of bliss and the home of the elves. Truly a rare show is presented by John F. Poole and his Olympian stars....Those who prefer to look on nature's noblemen, so to speak, and to view with ordinary eyes the giants of the period, may next week see five hundred men or less at Booth's Theatre, when Shakespeare is to make one more effort to obtain a foothold in this great metropolitan mart of the arts and sciences. If five hundred stalwart men cannot make Shakespeare stand where erstwhile "Humpty Dumpty" fell, then hung be the house with black, and—more anon!.... And speaking of these valiant soldiers who have "enlisted for the war" under the banner of Julius Caesar and stage-manager Vincent, admonishes us that, judging from the success of the Georgia Minstrels, *the colored troupes* are more popular now than they were during our last war; and let us hope that it may ever be known as our last war!......This is the time for good deeds, and for the performance of acts worthy of emulation; and here's a case in point. It appears that they have a call-boy at the Union-square Theatre who, by his affability and willingness, etc., has made himself quite a favorite with the company at that house; so, a few days ago, Charles R. Thorne Jr., on behalf of the company and attaches, presented Ed. A. Moore with a gold watch and chain as an evidence of their appreciation of his obliging services and cheerful disposition. It is so rare to find these little people of a theatre remembered while gold watches and canes are being scattered around, that we take this opportunity to *add a more* touching tribute to our usual record of presentations, although this "Thorne in the side" (pocket) was not needed to show him how necessary it might be to "Call Time" as well as to call the players......And now "Our Jim" is making earnest application at the various theatres for a position as call-boy. Could we believe in his integrity of purpose, we might applaud his ambition; but we fear he has another object in view, and that he will bear watching.......And now Manager Daly announces a "Pique" matinee on Christmas. Why, oh why does he introduce "Pique" at a time when "peace on earth and good will to man" is the precious boon handed down to us by holy writ?...... And here let us kindly remark, as a free offering to all whom it may concern, that pleasant ushers help to make up the *good attendants* of a theatre! And yet how few there are who realize this important truth. May we hope that the new year will usher in a better order of things......And at Tony Pastor's New Theatre, on Broadway, we find the pantomimic element at work for the holidays, and the Hernandez-Ravel Troupe secured to make the extravaganza a grand success. "The Magic Horn" is the title of their holiday attraction, not "the 'orn of the 'unter 'erd on the 'Ils" of Jersey during the recent fox chase over there, but a veritable "Magic Horn" of plenty of tricks, traps, and transformation. Verily, our several variety theatres understand and abundantly cater for the wants of the rising generation.........Somebody is making a noble effort to transform the late Dan Bryant's Minstrel Hall into a comedy theatre; but no matter what is presented there—be it high tragedy, low comedy, or genteel society—the shadow of the lamented Dan hovers o'er the scene, and casts a gloom around that no scenic effort can dispel. Dan Bryant, Nelse Seymour, and Unsworth—a trio of shining lights on the Twenty-third street black-boards—have all passed away, leaving but a wreck behind......And talking of the "shadow of death," made familiar to us by the graphic records, in the daily papers, of the rise and fall of the men who were executed in this city last Friday, reminds us that death has been unusually busy in the ranks of Thespis since last week's issue of THE CLIPPER, for reports of which we refer the reader to the different departments of our theatrical record......If the favorable debut of Oakey Hall is to be the cause of inducing our Mayors, and Judges, and lawyers to give up their own profession for that of the stage, will the cause of justice, morality, and the drama have gained anything by the new departure?........ The shoes of the gymnast recently performing at Tony Pastor's "Our Jim" describes as "*Ala gaiters*," and yet his *feat is a la* Lulu!......A man who is evidently insane on the subject of astronomy wonders how in these hard times so many "stars" *plan-it* to keep from star-vation. We can only say that there are not many "well-fixed" stars revolving around at present. One thing is certain, if there is nothing to do they won't have to go to re-Herschel. [The indulgent patron of art and science will understand what we mean.—ED.]......There's another thing we desire to impress upon your mind while you are in a legal condition of sanity. If that unfortunate Prince Leo should ever get back in the business, and do "brother acts," what rapacious and distrustful animal would his companion remind you of? [Now, we have no objection to your interviewing the various animals Barnum had left over from his late sale, neither do we object to your soliciting a stay of proceedings from Judge Donohue while you search the records and menageries and prisons for new and important evidence bearing upon the case. And yet, why procrastinate?—ED.] He would remind you of the "*Leo*"-*pard*, of course......A friend of Buffalo William and Shackoasty James, desirous of getting the opinions of parties well posted in theatrical lore, asked "Our Jim" what he thought of "Life on the Boarder." In his usual cautious way, he replied that life was pretty tough on boarders in some of the three-dollars-a-week houses. And then he proceeded to Philadelphia, to join in the free blow to the President, his Cabinet, and Congress, at the Centennial jamberee......And talking about victuals, a freebooter in Australia sends us a telegram [charges collected here], to inform us that Jennie Benson saves a large portion of her salary accruing from engagements there, *for future Jennie rations!* We have sent out a "Man by the Name of Thompson," with a can of nitro-glycerine, a "Dinamite" contrivance, and a loaded swivel to reward this jester......"A nuther man," "as he sailed, as he sailed, down the Father of Waters," had a little "discrepancy" with his "fondest one." Words fail us to do the subject justice, so we sought the services of eminent collaborateurs, and here is the result:

DOWN THE BANKS.

Swift past the mighty river's shore
He calmly sailed, nor would he lower
Its majesty one 'ot or tittle;
Yet in good time loud shouted he:
"Go, steward, fetch a cup of tea,
I'll make the 'Missis' sip a little!"

[If the conscientious and prudent reader fails to catch the prismatic scintillation of this touching refrain, permit us to undeceive him by saying that the closing line may make all things clearer than the river itself if read thus: "*And make the Mississippi little.*" See? He refrained, you will notice in the early part of the story, to *lower* the river, but he would make the great stream *little!* See now? Ha! ha! ha!—ED.]......*Come* in! 'I hav bin to lunch and beer under the *Trybune*; and as I cum out full, I thus solilerkwised: *Wy du tha nede a klock on the taul tower wen tha hire a man tu kepe a watch on it?*' "We're full up here, too," came a voice from *our* tall tower, and that lets Jim out for a MERRY CHRISTMAS.]

CITY SUMMARY.

MLLE. BERTHA BELLETTI, McCullough and Friels, and "Grimaldi" Adams were the fresh appearances at Tony Pastor's New Theatre on Dec. 13. Mlle. Belletti gave an entertainment styled 'Mystic Blind-reading.' An attendant distributed among the audience a number of blank cards, and Mlle. Belletti requested the holders to write upon them brief sentences or names, as their fancy dictated. The attendant then handed each holder an envelope, and requested that the card should be placed therein, and the envelope sealed. When this had been done he collected the several envelopes, and carried them to Mlle. Belletti upon the stage, who announced that she would decipher and read what had been written upon the several cards. She succeeded in doing so correctly in several cases, but the success of the entertainment was somewhat marred by the writers declining to answer in an audible tone whether her reading was correct or not. She was greeted by liberal applause in those instances when the proper responses were heard. She concluded her performances by perpetrating an amusing "sell" upon a number of persons. McCullough and Friels performed a musical sketch called "The Irish Exiles," which was enthusiastically received. They sing well, and excel in dancing. During a double-clog their time was excellent, and among a great variety of steps they introduced some entirely new. They were compelled to respond to a triple recall ere the audience would be satisfied. Later in the evening they danced a double-jig with a similar result. 'Grimaldi' Adams gave a good performance upon stilts, which met with favor. Tony Pastor sang a new song entitled "Where Tweed is Gone," descriptive of places where he might be, possibly, concealed, which met with immediate success. It is one of the best songs that we ever heard upon the variety stage, and by far surpasses the best English songs which find their way to this country. The author, whoever he may be, deserves encouragement. Gus Williams also favored the audience with a fresh Dutch song, the burthen of which was "It's Only a Question of Time." The attendance has been good.

J. C. STEWART, Master Bonnie Runnells, Maggie Gray, W. H. Morton, and Aubrey and Moulton were the new appearances at the Globe Theatre Dec. 13. J. C. Stewart kept the audience well amused by his clever acting in the sketches of "Faint Heart Can't Win" and "Tricks;" Master Runnells sang Dutch songs, gave acrobatic dances, and an imitation of a school-boy reciting "Bingen on the Rhine," all of which elicited liberal applause; Maggie Gray's merits as a serio-comic vocalist are well known to our readers, and her efforts were fully up to their usual standard; Aubrey and Moulton gave excellent gymnastic feats, and concluded with Mr. Aubrey turning a backward somersault from a flying trapeze, and catching a rope suspended on the stage. The attendance has been moderately good.

"ROSE MICHEL" continues to attract large audiences to the Union-square Theatre.

AT THE THEATRE COMIQUE there was no accessions to the company last week. A new tableau, entitled "The Rock of Ages," was given. The figures in all of the pictures were more heavily draped than formerly.

AT THE OLYMPIC THEATRE Mr. Fredericks, the well-known globe-performer, was the only fresh appearance since our last report; Campbell and Barre, who were announced, failing to appear. Business has been good.

WILLIAM WARREN, comedian, and R. Montgomery Field of the Boston (Mass.) Museum, were in town during the past week.

J. JOSLYN, a member of the Theatrical Mechanical Association, died in this city during the past week, and was buried on Sunday, Dec. 19, the Association attending his funeral.

"NIMBLE NIP" is the title of the Christmas pantomime to be produced this week at the Olympic Theatre, and Bland Holt will be Clown. Eva Sinclair, drum-soloist, will make her American debut therein. Alice Bennett, Johnson and Bruno, Harper and Stansill are to re-appear.

"THE MAGIC HORN" is to be given by the Hernandez-Ravel Pantomime Troupe at Tony Pastor's this week, and the other newcomers will be the Whittinghams, Master Newman, Sallie St. Clair, the Henri Family, Ada Laurent, Sam Martin, and Jennie Morgan.

MISS NELLY NELSON and John Penary are the new faces at the Theatre Comique this week, and new tableaux are announced.

NO NEW FACES at the Eagle this week.

AT THE GLOBE THEATRE Mons. and Mme. D'Omer, Charles Young, Mons. L. Delorme and Winona Bridges are billed for Dec. 20.

E. T. STETSON is the star this week at the Bowery Theatre.

W. FORRESTER and Miss Rose Keene are rapidly gaining the favor of the audiences at the Parisian Varieties. Harry Montague, Myles Morris, Minnie Hall, Carrie Duncan and Ella Arlington are also favorites.

D. S. WAMBOLD has been suffering from a severe throat affection for several days past.

F. S. CHANFRAU acted in "Rube" at Wood's Museum until Thursday evening, when "Sam" was revived, and held the boards the rest of the week to good business. At the matinee the stock-company acted "Dolly's Delusion." "Kit" this week.

AT THE TIVOLI THEATRE, this week, the ballet-pantomime of "The Erl King" is to be produced, and in the variety olio the four Caron Brothers, Mollie Demar, the Misses Hamilton and Francis, Mlle. Le Fevre, Lyman Laiscelle, Mons. Velarde, Sam Collins, Sam Norman, Mr. Davis and the Bohemian ballet-troupe are to appear.

"PIQUE," a play of to-day, by Augustin Daly, was acted for the first time on any stage at the Fifth-avenue Theatre Tuesday evening, Dec. 14, and was cast as follows:

Matthew Standish .. C. Fisher	Captain Speers .... I. Davean
Captain Arthur Standish, U. S. N. .... D. H. Harkins	Mabel Renfrew, Miss F. Davenport
Dr. Gossitt ..... J. Brougham	Lucille Renfrew. Miss E. Rigl
Mr. Raymond Lessing, M. Barrymore	Mary Standish. Miss J. Lewis
Sammy Dymple .... J. Lewis	Aunt Dorothy, Mrs. G. H. Gilbert
Thorsby Gyll ...... J. Drew	Raitch .... Miss S. Cowell
Ragmoney Jim, F. Hardenburg	Mother Thames, Miss K. Holland
Padder .... W. Davidge	Sylvie ...... Miss L. Griffith
Picker Bob ...... C. Rockwell	Little Arthur. Belle Wharton
Rattlin ...... W. Beckman	

The play was mounted with entirely new scenery from the pencils of James Roberts, Charles W. Witham and Louis Duflocq, new furniture by Pottier & Stymus, antiques by Sypher & Co., exotic plants from Bridgman & Co., and mechanical effects by Thomas Kelly. Every costume worn was new, and Harvey B. Dodworth had composed new and original music. The piece is in five acts and seven tableaux, and on its initial representation the performance lasted until long after midnight. On the second night the final curtain fell at twelve o'clock precisely, and the acting time was gradually reduced at subsequent performances. The play achieved a pronounced success, and deservedly, because the dialogue is good, although at present a little too redundant; the characters are well drawn, and so natural that their prototypes may be easily found in real life; the situations are effectively arranged, and many of the incidents are thrilling and skillfully introduced. There are veins of both humor and pathos running through the play, and at times the auditorium resounds with laughter; while, at others, audible sobs attest how deeply the sympathies of the spectators have been touched by the griefs portrayed upon the mimic stage. The story of the play may be told as follows:

The rising curtain discloses a view of the conservatory at Grassmere, the home of the Renfrews, which is a marvel of scenic art. In the foreground are seen rare plants and shrubs, and rustic benches and chairs. From about the centre of the stage flights of steps lead to an adjoining room, the floor of which is raised some distance above that of the conservatory, and through glass doors, and windows and hanging vines, can be seen a gay company of fashionable ladies and gentlemen dancing. The first act is devoted almost entirely to society small talk, flirtation and love-making. Mabel Renfrew—a daughter of a deceased wealthy banker—young, beautiful and accomplished, is the bright star of this social circle. Around her lovers hover like bees around a flower, but her heart is apparently untouched. Among her suitors the most conspicuous are Captain Arthur Standish of the United States Navy, a son of Matthew Standish of old Puritan stock, and an extensive mill-owner in Massachusetts, and Mr. Raymond Lessing, a society man. Capt. Standish loves her deeply, has asked her hand in marriage, and his suit is urged by Dr. Gossitt. Lucille Renfrew, the banker's pretty widow, is rather young for Mabel's stepmother; but, to use the language of the housebill, "the right age for a rival." Mabel frowns upon Captain Standish's offer, and Raymond Lessing, being temporarily left alone with Mabel, receives from her such encouragement that he avows his love for her, and receives from her lips an acknowledgment that she reciprocates his passion. This little episode is witnessed by Doctor Gossitt, who, meeting Lessing after Mabel has left him, informs him that Mabel is not the heiress to the deceased banker's estate, as he supposes; but that the pretty widow, Lucille, inherits the bulk of his property. Upon the instant Lessing goes in search of Lucille, and Mabel then re-enters upon the scene, reading a letter from Captain Standish, asking her hand in marriage. She is much piqued, and is about to tear up the letter in disdain, when Dr. Gossitt, who apparently is a sort of mutual friend, counsels her to forbear and take proper time for reflection before deciding such a serious matter. He then informs her of Lessing's perfidy, and points him out to Mabel in the adjoining room, flirting with Lucille. As they speak, Lessing and Mabel's stepmother enter the conservatory, the Doctor and Mabel conceal themselves behind some shrubbery, and the latter is astonished to hear Lessing, upon the very spot where a few moments before he had declared his love for her, now avow to Lucille that she is the only woman he has ever loved, and to ask her hand in marriage. This tete-a-tete is interrupted by an influx into the conservatory of the guests from the adjoining room, and, as Capt. Standish bids Mabel farewell and is about to depart, he is suddenly recalled by Mabel, who, in the presence of the assemblage, informs him that she has received his letter, asking her hand in marriage, and that she accepts his offer, exclaiming: "There is my hand—take it!" as she gazes with contempt upon her perjured lover Lessing, who in dumb show expresses his passion for Lucille. This terminates the first act, and makes clear the title of the play. After a supposed lapse of one year, the second act commences in the palatial country mansion of Matthew Standish. We learn that Capt. Standish, who has been traveling in Europe during the past year, is about to bring his bride to his ancestral home for the first time. Here we are introduced to Matthew Standish, a stern, elderly gentleman; Aunt Dorothy, a spinster of uncertain age; Mary Standish, who has been Capt. Standish's companion from early childhood, and who deeply loved him, but, as he gave no sign of reciprocation, had concealed her passion; and Raitch, a maid-of-all-work, whose cheerfulness and exuberance of spirits keep everyone in the best of humor. The son and his wife arrive, and their manners cast a chill upon the cordial welcome in store for them. Mabel, looking very pale, is simply a languid lady of fashion, and Captain Standish has a cold, distant air. After a time Mabel is informed by Matthew Standish that it has been a custom in his family for many years for all the household to assemble nightly at ten o'clock for devotion. Against this Mabel openly rebels, and is somewhat harshly scolded by Matthew. After the others have retired, Captain Standish comes to counsel his wife to yield; but she remains obdurate, and sinks into a chair, where she remains as though asleep. Shortly after the Captain's departure a window in the apartment is slowly raised, and Ragmoney Jim and Padder, two tramps, enter for the purpose of robbery. Being discovered by Mabel, she gives an alarm, and as the people of the house enter she denounces them as thieves, and is again chided for so doing by Matthew, who espouses their cause by stating that they are simply poor people out of work who seek food, and he sends them to the kitchen for refreshment. Mabel shows that this life is irksome to her, and a rupture takes place between her husband and herself. Goaded almost to madness, she tells him that she never loved him, that she married him simply to spite Raymond Lessing, the only man she ever loved. Captain Standish, thoroughly aroused by this declaration, bids her farewell and flies from the house. At the moment of his departure, Raymond Lessing, who had accompanied Lucille Renfrew hither on a visit, enters, unknown to the latter, and, having previously overheard the conversation between Mabel and her husband, believes himself to be the master of the situation. In an interview with Mabel he offers her his "protection," which she indignantly scorns, and he, abashed, is driven from her presence. Matthew Standish, who has listened to this interview, detains Mabel and her child, Little Arthur, as prisoners in his house. After the supposed lapse of two years, the action of the play is resumed in the same house. Mabel and her child are still there, and the greater portion of the third act is devoted to the development of the underplot. Towards the end, however, the two tramps, Ragmoney Jim and Padder, steal Mabel's child, and escape with it. A letter, supposed to have been sent by them, touching this matter, but which has neither address nor signature, is delivered, prior to the occurrence, by mistake to Mabel, and, it falling into the hands of Matthew Standish, he, after the event, accuses Mabel of stealing and causing to be abducted her own child. After a lapse of one month we are apprised, in the study of Doctor Gossitt, of the efforts that are being made to recover the lost child. Matthew Standish, whose opinion of Mabel has entirely changed, is now one of the foremost workers in that cause. No clue, although a heavy reward has been offered, can be obtained. A package containing a new calico dress, worn by Raitch, who disappeared from Matthew Standish's house at the time the child was stolen, and whose whereabouts had since remained a complete mystery, is received in the Doctor's study. After a thorough search, nothing can be found in it to account for its being sent. Shortly after a letter is received, stating that, if a messenger will come alone to a designated spot behind Trinity churchyard, he will be met by a person who will negotiate for the return of the infant. Matthew Standish volunteers to perform that duty; and the Doctor, knowing the danger attending the adventure, sends word to Capt. Speers of the police force requesting him to place men in concealment, so as to protect Matthew Standish, and, if possible, arrest those concerned in the abduction. After Mr. Standish's departure, Sammy Dymple, a young millionaire, who figures in the underplot, and who creates considerable amusement by his ever-unfortunate love adventures, in again scanning the calico dress above referred to finds a bunch of hard material concealed in it. Opening this with his knife, he draws out a piece of brown paper, apparently blank; but, upon passing it accidentally between his eyes and the gaslight, he finds that it is full of holes made by the paper being punctured with a pin. A closer inspection develops that these orifices form words, and to his great delight he is enabled to decipher a message from Raitch, requesting some person to come to Beggar's Paradise, in Thames street. Sammy Dymple and his chum Thorsby Gyll at once start for that place. A change of scene shows us the rear of Trinity churchyard, and Matthew Standish in waiting. A number of people of the lower class, in various disguises, pass him, and by their remarks let him know that they are aware that the police are watching, and until they are withdrawn no negotiations can be had. Mr. Standish calls Captain Speers to him, and requests him to withdraw his men. When that has been done, the several persons above referred to return, and, after they have each interrogated Mr. Standish, Ragmoney Jim, who has become satisfied that he is the person expected, informs him that, if he is prepared to negotiate for the return of the child, he must go to Beggar's Paradise, and that a woman will be sent to conduct him thither. To this Mr. Standish assents, and soon a poor, half-demented creature appears, and by her actions intimates to him that he is to follow her. After their exit, by another change of scene an interior view of Beggar's Paradise is presented. The attic of a house and one room beneath it occupy the stage. From the lower room there are several doors leading to other apartments, and on the stage left a stairway leading down to the lower floors. Sammy Dymple and Thorsby Gyll are the first to arrive, and they find the apartments unoccupied. They climb a ladder leading from the lower room, seen on the stage, through a trap-door, into the attic, and no sooner have they reached that apartment than the tramps enter. The lost child and Raitch, who has been kept a prisoner, are brought in, and preparations are made for Mr. Standish's arrival. The child, after being drugged with a sleeping-draught, is placed under a pallet upon the floor, and all save Ragmoney Jim leave the apartment. Mr. Standish, piloted by the woman above described, now enters, and, as soon as she disappears and Jim has locked all the doors leading into the room, negotiations are commenced for the restoration of the child. A reward of $20,000 has been offered, but Ragmoney Jim demands $50,000. Mr. Standish replies that he has not so much money with him, and he is then requested to pay down the first amount named and get the balance. Mr. Standish, who has become somewhat alarmed at the aspect of affairs, now believes that he has a good opportunity to escape, and is about to depart, ostensibly to get his money, when he is told that he must send for it, and pencil and paper are placed before him, to write an order for it. To gain time, Mr. Standish complies, and the order is sent by a messenger. Mr. Standish then resolves upon a bold dash for liberty, and, grappling Jim when he is off his guard, overpowers him; but, as soon as he has thrown him to the floor, a number of Jim's accomplices enter through the several doors, which had been previously locked, and Jim is speedily released, and Mr. Standish is overpowered and bound to a post with a rope. He then confesses that he has brought no money with him, and he is denounced as a spy. A noise being heard in the attic, Raitch is sent there to learn the cause of it. Upon arriving there, she recognizes Dymple and Gyll, and signifies that she will not betray their presence. On returning to the lower apartment, she tells Jim that there is no one there, and that the noise was made by the rats. Dymple and Gyll, who have watched everything that has occurred, now decide upon hasty action. One of them jumps from a window to a neighboring telegraph-pole, and reaches the earth and flies for assistance. The tramps then decide to kill Mr. Standish, and, after some colloquy, it is agreed to decide by lot who shall dispatch him. After arranging some slips of paper for that purpose, Jim calls out for a hat, when the doors are burst in, and Captain Speers enters, followed by a number of patrolmen, and exclaims: "Take mine!" The ruffians are quickly overpowered, and, upon raising the pallet to rescue the child, the boy is not there; but a trap-door is discovered leading to a room below, and Capt. Speers jumps through it as the curtain descends upon the tableau. The action of the last act takes place in the city residence of the Renfrews—one of the handsomest stage-pictures seen in this city for a long time. Here we find Mabel, slowly recovering from a severe illness caused by grief at the loss of her child. Capt. Standish has returned, and now possesses Mabel's undivided affection. The child has been recovered, but is believed to be dead. However, ere the news is broken to Mabel it is discovered that the boy is simply under the effects of a sleeping-draught, and, after Mabel is apprised of his recovery, the child is brought and restored to his mother's arms, and the curtain falls upon a tableau of general happiness—Raymond Lessing, being about to wed Lucille Renfrew; Sammy Dymple, Raitch; and Thorsby Gyll, Mary Standish.

The acting was even and highly satisfactory throughout. Charles Fisher gave a charmingly natural and effective impersonation of Matthew Standish. D. H. Harkins appeared to much better advantage than for some time past, being quiet and easy in manner. John Brougham's artistic idiosyncracies were nicely fitted in the character of Doctor Gossitt. Maurice Barrymore is to be complimented for giving an even and quite satisfactory portraiture of Mr. Raymond Lessing. The two youthful, but quite ardent lovers, Sammy Dymple and Thorsby Gyll, received good treatment at the hands of James Lewis and John Drew respectively. They are inseparable companions throughout the play, and were quite happy in depicting the foibles of very young men with a great deal of money. Frank Hardenberg and William Davidge as the two tramps were both excellent in make-up and in concealing their personal identity, and their acting deserves warm commendation. I. Davean made quite a success in the brief role of Captain Speers. Miss Fanny Davenport's natural gifts of beauty of face and figure, which were enhanced by several magnificent toilets during the early portion of the play, were eminently fitted to the character of Mabel Renfrew. During the last three acts she had ample opportunity to display her ability for pathetic acting, and her efforts struck a chord of sympathy in the breasts of her audience. It is seldom that she has appeared in a character so well fitted as this to display her varied accomplishments. Her success was unequivocal. Miss Emily Rigl, who was also charmingly attired, acted Lucille Renfrew with much piquancy and dash. Miss Jeffreys Lewis' impersonation of Mary Standish was ingenuous, and entirely free from conventionality. Mrs. G. H. Gilbert's portraiture of Aunt Dorothy was a gem of character acting, and fully up to her accustomed standard of excellence. Miss Sydney Cowell as the waif Raitch displayed much mercuriality of disposition, and seemed filled with impish mischievousness. In her style and manner of acting she constantly reminds one of Lotta. Not that we would infer that she imitates her in any respect, but her natural gifts are of the same order, and she resembles her in stature and in the possession of an abundance of animal spirits. Miss Kate Holland in the brief role of Mother Thames displayed talent for character acting which deserves encouragement, and which foreshadows future excellence in that line. Miss Lizzie Griffith exhibited care and attention in the little required of her as Sylvie. Little Belle Wharton, a handsome child, presented an attractive picture as Little Arthur. The attendance has been large, and we think that the play is likely to have a successful run.

OAKEY HALL, the well-known lawyer, politician, editor and ex-Mayor of the city of New York, made his debut as an actor at the Park Theatre, on Saturday evening, Dec. 18, in a colaborated melodrama in four acts entitled "Crucible," which was performed with the following cast of characters:

Hester Keirton, Miss M. Doyle	Silas Craft ...... John Dillon
Clemency Newcombe, Miss A. Edmondson	Lt. Frank Rodney, R. N., Cyril Searle
Eve Pensleigh, Miss A. Wakeman	Reuben Pensleigh... T. Hind
Susan Knoutley, Miss C. Leigh	Trotty Newcombe J. Padgett
Peggy Taffey, Miss I. E. Rodamma	Timothy Taffey... M. C. Daly
Stevey Newcombe, Marie Louise	John Linkford. W. Ferguson
	Count Fabrega, Juror Fogie, Phil the Scrivener } Vining Bowers
	Knoutley ...... W. Scallon
	Thomas Ricketts... C. Parsloe

THE DISAGREEING TWELVE.

Mr. Foreman Taffey.

Milkson, the juror for gambling .... W. Scallon
Kickshaw, the spirited juror .... Frank Langley
Carpenter, the juror who loved air .... J. C. Franklin
Cross, the juror who liked suffocation .... W. A. Rouse
Mildmay, the juror with a baby .... C. Clarence
Meggins, the skeptical juror .... G. W. Murray
Pemmican, the juror for Scotch Bannocks .. J. W. Brutone
Smithers, the juror for Matilda Jane .... C. Rosene
Snagley, the jolly juror from Yorkshire .... C. Parsloe
Templeton, the juror for conscience .... H. B. Cutler
Fogie, the Talesman.

Adolphus, Q. C. .... Harry Gwynette
De Gex .... J. C. Parker
Austin .... G. R. Holmes
The Q. C.'s clerk .... W. Peters
The Barrister's clerk .... M. Wilton
His Lordship's Tipstaff .... J. A. Wilks
The Court Tipstaff .... Charles Montrose
Wilmot Keirton .... Oakey Hall

Upon the house-bills of that evening official announcement was made that Mr. Hall was a colessee and comanager with W. Stuart of this theatre. Mr. Hall has hitherto had considerable experience as a theatrical manager in this city, although his name in such capacity has not been heralded to the public. There was, probably, never a more brilliant audience assembled in any theatre in this city than that present on this occasion. Distinguished judges, lawyers, artists, actors, bankers, merchants, litterateurs and prominent society-people filled the lower portion of the auditorium. Numerous seats in the upper tier remained vacant until during the second act, when those persons who were standing were notified that they could occupy them, and they were speedily filled. The ticket speculators held the largest portion of the best seats in the house, and they resold them at large premiums. Some of them, however, got "bit," judging from the fact the seats above referred to remained vacant, and that two private boxes in the middle tier, and a few seats here and there in the orchestra, were unoccupied. Mr. Hall was enthusiastically welcomed upon his first appearance, and called before the curtain at the end of every act; and at the close of the drama he addressed a few words of thanks to the audience, during which he said that "From to-night I am done with speech-making, except in delivering the language set down for me." The drama, of which the debutant is the principal author, made a fair success. It is so constructed that it can be built up and therefore it would be impolitic to pronounce any final judgment upon its merits at this writing. The dialogue is refined and bristles with pungent satire, delicately shaded humor, and in one scene there is a perfect corruscation of puns, which elicited much laughter. It was well mounted with freshly-painted scenery, among which the view of Keirton's villa, on the Thames, a tableau of the court-room in the Old Bailey, both by Matt Morgan, and the prison-scene in the fourth act, by Charles Henry, deserve high praise. The marine landscape seen beyond the prison-walls was a gem of scenic art, and the water-and-clouds effects have seldom if ever been surpassed. The action of the drama is laid in England, and the story of its plot may be told as follows:

The rising curtain discloses the banking-office of Reuben Pensleigh, at the hour of eight on a foggy morning. An old messenger, Trotty Newcombe, is seen drinking a pot of beer, and his deaf-and-dumb son, a youth, is lying asleep on the floor, concealed under an office-table. The messenger is suddenly overcome with sleep (we subsequently learn that the beer had been drugged), and sinks into a chair insensible. Phil the scrivener, an ex-convict, then enters. He is attired and made up in close resemblance to Wilmot Keirton, a confidential clerk in Pensleigh's banking-house. Eve Pensleigh, the wife of the banker, at the same moment stealthily enters. Phil delivers to her a package of letters compromising her honor, and in return receives a key of the inner door of the safe, and she tells him that the word "Gypsy," spelt with a "y," controls the combination lock upon the outer door. Phil opens the safe, takes therefrom a package of bank-notes and a list of their numbers, which has been left as a special deposit the previous day by Silas Craft. Replacing the empty envelope which contained the notes, he relocks the safe, returns the key to Eve, writes the word "Gypsy" upon a sheet of paper on Keirton's desk, and takes his departure. All this action has been witnessed by the deaf-and-dumb boy, who awoke upon Phil's first entrance, and silently watched his movements. He arouses his father from his stupor, and by pantomimic action endeavors to make him understand that the safe has been robbed; but the stupid old watchman, thinking that the boy is going to expose his dereliction of duty, drags him from the apartment. One of the clerks arrives, and is almost instantly followed by Wilmot Keirton, who prepares for his labors of the day. Silas Craft enters, to withdraw his special deposit. We learn that it is the custom of the bank for the confidential clerk to lock the inner door and the banker the combination lock on the outer door, and every night these duties are reversed. As the banker locked the combination the previous evening, it is necessary to send for him ere the safe can be opened. Soon he enters, complaining about being aroused from his couch at such an unseasonable hour. He opens the outer door, and Keirton the inner, and the latter opens a tin box in which he placed the notes, amounting to £3,000, and upon examining the envelope finds it empty. The banker demands of Keirton their numbers. He searches his table, and, not finding them there, he suddenly recollects that he placed them in the envelope with the notes. He acknowledges that it was a fault, and apologizes for his remissness. A detective is sent for, and suspicion begins to fasten on Keirton as being the robber. One of the clerks states positively that he saw Keirton coming across the square to the bank before eight o'clock, and the deaf-and-dumb boy, coming in, starts in horror as he recognizes him, as he thinks, the thief. He describes in pantomime all that took place, and points out Keirton as the guilty party. The word "Gypsy," apparently in Keirton's handwriting, is found upon the paper on his table. With such proof against him, the banker orders John Linkford the detective to arrest him, and the curtain falls upon the tableau. The second act opens at Keirton's villa, on the Thames, and here we find preparations being made by Hester, Wilmot Keirton's sister, and her lover, Lieut. Frank Rodney of the Royal Navy, for festivities it being Wilmot's holiday. They have received a note from him that he has been detained in town on urgent business, but hopes to be with them ere the day closes. Silas Craft, a rejected suitor for the hand of Hester, enters unobserved, steals into the house, goes to Wilmot's room, and gets possession of his bank-books, and then slips quietly away into the neighboring woods. The detective arrives to hunt up evidence, but, as he is an old friend of the family, his appearance excites no surprise. While he is flirting with Clemency Newcombe, Wilmot Keirton (having obtained bail) arrives and is cordially welcomed. In the midst of this happiness comes Silas Craft from the woods with the bank-book in hand, which he says he found concealed in the trunk of a hollow tree. His conversation with the detective reveals to Hester the knowledge of her brother's supposed crime. There is a touching scene between the brother and sister, and the others are horrified, and when addressed, remain silent. Frank Rodney breaks his engagement with Hester, and she returns him the betrothal ring; but after a brief delay he, like a brave fellow, replaces it upon her hand in pledge that she shall be his wedded wife. The third act is devoted to the trial of Keirton in the Old Bailey, and brings the underplot into prominence. There are four scenes. In the first, representing a corridor in the Old Bailey, we see the lawyers, witnesses, jurors, etc., going to attend the trial; a tipstaff comes in search of a talesman, the panel for the jury having been exhausted, and he selects the real thief, who is here disguised as Mr. Fogie, watching the progress of events. The second is a tableau vivant representing the court-room during the trial. The third shows us the corridor again, with the attendants upon the trial returning to their homes and commenting upon what they have witnessed. The fourth shows us the jury-room, with the jury deliberating upon their verdict. The fourth act takes place within the prison-walls. Keirton, having been convicted and sentenced, is here in prisoner's garb, acting as a clerk keeping the prison register. Eve Pensleigh, the banker's wife, writhing under the tortures of her conscience because she has permitted an innocent man to suffer for her crime, comes hither, and bribes the keeper to allow Kierton to escape. The keeper hands Keirton a key to a door in the prison-walls, informs him that the door of his cell will not be locked that night, and intimates how he can regain his liberty. After a struggle with himself, Keirton refuses to escape, and hands back the key. Trotty Newcombe, the old bank-watchman, is now a prison-messenger, and his deaf-and-dumb son has the liberty of the yard. He encounters Eve as she is about to depart, and recognizes her. He informs the detective by pantomimic action that she should be arrested. The boy is so violently demonstrative that the detective pursues her, and brings her back. He recognizes her face, yet cannot remember who she is. Eve, thinking that he knows her, confesses all. She had been a convict's wife, and after the death of her husband she marries Pensleigh the banker. It was this knowledge that enabled Phil the scrivener to compel her to steal her husband's key to the inner door of the safe, and get from him the word which controlled the combination lock. Eve reveals to the detective the whereabouts of Phil, who presently comes to prison disguised as Count Fabrega, to watch her movements. Silas Craft has also concealed himself in the prison-yard. While Phil, who has momentarily dropped his assumed character, is having a somewhat violent altercation with Silas Craft, Timothy Taffey, who was the foreman of the jury at the trial of Keirton, recognizes in Phil Mr. Fogie the juryman, who gave a false place of residence, and the detective arrests him. Mutual recrimination between Phil and Craft shows that the latter made the special deposit in collusion with Phil, so that he might steal it and then fasten the guilt upon Keirton, out of revenge for having been discarded by his sister, by Keirton's advice. Silas Craft is taken into custody. Wilmot Keirton's innocence is fully established. Lieut. Rodney, who by the death of his father has succeeded to a baronetcy, and married Hester since Keirton's incarceration, now enters with his wife, bearing a full pardon, and the curtain falls upon a tableau illustrative of the triumph of innocence and the punishment of vice.

The acting, as a whole, was quite satisfactory, and the performance, for a first night, was smooth. Miss Minnie Doyle, who made her metropolitan debut, acted Hester Keirton with much feeling. She has a pleasing appearance, a good stage-presence, and reads intelligently and well. Miss Annie Edmondson as Clemency Newcombe acted with much vivacity and spirit. Miss Annie Wakeman did not give entire satisfaction as Eve Penaleigh. She is evidently a novice, but she displayed some capacity for acting, and will doubtless improve with future practice. Marie Louise, who made her first appearance in this city, displayed considerable talent for pantomimic acting as the deaf-and-dumb boy Stevey Newcombe. She is of medium height, has a slight figure, a pretty and expressive countenance, and her movements and poses were graceful. John Dillon was erroneously announced as making his debut in this city. He was engaged at Laura Keene's Theatre for the season of 1858-9, and when "Our American Cousin" was being rehearsed for its first production Mr. Dillon was cast for Asa Trenchard, but he was afraid to face a metropolitan audience in so important a role, and resigned the part. He played Captain De Boots in that comedy, and acted under the name of Clinton. After playing a few more unimportant characters, he withdrew from the theatre and returned to the West. He is an excellent and conscientious actor, and, although the role of Silas Craft is not adapted to display his vis comica at the best, it being in professional parlance an eccentric character part, yet he acted it artistically and with much success. He is thoroughly at ease, merges his personal indenity in the assumed character, and appears totally unconscious of the presence of his auditors—qualities that stamp him a sterling artist. He is a decided acquisition to the metropolitan stage. Cyril Searle, likewise credited with a metropolitan debut, acted the character of Lieut. Frank Rodney quite satisfactorily. He has a good personal appearance, a manly bearing, and reads intelligently and well. T. J. Hind gave an excellent impersonation of the aged and avaricious banker. J. C. Padgett was artistically made up for Trotty Newcombe, the old messenger, and invested the role with a deal of character, and acted in a natural and pleasing manner. W. J. Ferguson acted John Linkford the detective quietly and with marked effect. Vining Bowers achieved a pronounced success in his three characters. His make-up as the double of Keirton in the first act was so excellent as to completely deceive the audience. His change to the Frenchman, the Count Fabrega, was equally good—not a trace of the former character was distinguishable, either in manner, gait or gesture; and as Juror Fogie he surprised his auditors. His impersonation of the bland English gentleman was artistic and highly successful, and some little time elapsed ere the spectators recognized him, so capitally was he made up. William Scallon acted Knoutley, the keeper of the prison, with much fidelity to nature. The scene of the jury deliberating upon their verdict is a novelty, and, as it admits of much *ad libitum* business, it can be kept constantly attractive by the introduction, from time to time, of fresh dialogue, witticisms and business. Each juror had a characteristic make-up, and after the first ballot, which was a disagreement, various comical devices were proposed by various members whose ideas were antagonistic, in order to win votes to one side or the other, so that a verdict might be arrived at, it being quite immaterial whether the verdict might be guilty or not guilty. Two jurors contested for a result over a game of cribbage, and a very fat juror, impersonated by Frank Langley, offered to fight any man in the room "for guilty or not guilty," and the challenge was quickly accepted by Foreman Taffy, acted by M. C. Daly; and while the scrimmage was going on the closing scene concealed them from view. J. W. Brutone made a hit as a Scotchman, and all the others in the scene deserve commendation; but we cannot spare the space to speak of their merits in detail. The other characters in the cast, save that of Wilmot Keirton, were mere sketches; but the several actors representing them exerted themselves to please in the little they had to do. Oakey Hall, the representative of Wilmot Keirton, made quite a creditable debut. At first he suffered from stage-fright, which made his movements and attitudes somewhat stiff and constrained; but this speedily wore off, and he seemed more at ease. He acted very quietly, and, in trying to avoid the appearance of too much exertion, his shortcomings were in the other direction. At times he spoke a little too low, and at others he was not sufficiently impassioned—commendable faults, however, in a novice, because with practice they are more easily remedied. He was seen at his best in the scene in the second act, where his sister is first apprised of his supposed guilt, and in the prison-scene in the last act especially, when he refused to purchase his liberty by an ignominious flight. Mr. Hall had to pass through a trying ordeal; for, in addition to the ordinary difficulties a novice ever has to surmount at a debut, he had to face an audience largely composed of his personal friends and acquaintances. Judging from what we have seen, we think that we can safely predict that Mr. Hall will meet with success in his new venture, and that his improvement will be marked and rapid; and it is not impossible that he may shortly find that his talents may be best displayed in eccentric-character roles.

MUSICAL NOTES.—An extra season of German opera commenced at the Academy of Music on Wednesday evening, Dec. 15, Wachtel appearing as Lohengrin in Wagner's opera of that name. The bill was repeated for Friday evening, and "Il Trovatore," with Watchel as Manrico, was given at the Saturday matinee......Gounod's "Messe Solennelle" and selections from other works were performed at the sacred concert given at the Church of the Anthon Memorial on Thursday evening, with Miss Emma Thursby as the principal executant, and Marguerite Selvi and Messrs. Garner and Forman, vocalists, under the direction of G. F. Le Jeune, conductor and organist......At the Church of the Holy Trinity, Jos. H. Guild, organist, and Mme. Salvotti, vocalist, were the performers at the fortieth concert, on Wednesday afternoon last......Geo. F. Bristow, the well-known conductor and composer, was the recipient of a testimonial concert tendered to him on Saturday evening, at Steinway Hall. Miss Emily Butman and Mr. C. Fritsch, vocalists; A. H. Pease and Sig. Cervantes, pianists; F. Carri, violinist; G. W. Colby and C. Florio, accompanyists; and G. W. Morgan, organist; with a large chorus and orchestra, took part in the concert, selections from Bristow's works being a feature of the programme......The English Glee Club appeared at Chickering Hall on Thursday evening......Mme. Carreno-Sauret and Messrs. White, Cervantes, Sauret, Werner and Florio were the executants at the concert given at Chickering Hall on Friday evening.

LANE & WEAVER, variety agents, announce that ladies in all branches of the profession can find engagements by applying to their advertised address.

JULIA MATHEWS terminates her engagement at the Eagle Theatre on the 25th inst. She purposes organizing an opera-bouffe troupe. The Girards open at this house on the 27th inst., being their first appearance in several months, owing to Russell Girard having seriously injured himself by a fall while performing at the Boston Museum with the G. L. Fox Troupe.

MR. AND MRS. BARNEY WILLIAMS began an engagement at Booth's Theatre on Dec. 13, when "The Connie Soogah" was revived and mounted with all the magnificent scenery which distinguished its former production at this house. This drama held the boards during the week, save at the Saturday matinee, when Mrs. Williams acted a Yankee girl in "The Customs of the Country;" and "Blackeyed Susan," with F. B. Warde as William and Miss Rosa Rand as Susan, was performed. Mr. Williams appeared to much better advantage than when last seen in this theatre, a disease with which he was then suffering having since yielded to the skillful treatment of his physicians. Mrs. Williams appears as young as ever; her step is as elastic, her laugh as musical, as in days gone by, and she "covers the buckle" with so much lightness and agility that she is compelled to respond to two or three encores ere the enthusiasm abates. These artists in their respective lines are at the head of their profession, and their artistic abilities are as yet undimmed. The acting by the company was quite satisfactory, and the attendance has been large.

JULIAN KENT, aided by his "wild bear Julia," succeeded in attracting fair-sized audiences to the Bowery Theatre the past week by his performances in "Wild Bill, or Life on the Border," which has been hitherto reviewed in these columns. The farce of "The Hole in the Wall" was acted with the drama until Saturday evening, when "Norah Creina" was substituted.

BARTLEY CAMPBELL did not sail for England, as stated in our past issue. He writes us that he does not contemplate doing so before next Mid-summer.

AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS the programme was changed last week as follows: J. A. Barney sang "The Little Flower You Gave Me;" W. Raymond, "Bessie the Star of the Vale;" Billy Birch, "Mother Says I Mustn't;" Carl Rudolph, "When you and I were Soldier Boys;" Johnson and Powers gave a song-and-dance called "Temptation;" Ricardo sang "Thou Art so Near and Yet so Far;" J. G. Withers played a solo on the piccolo; and the new closing sketch, "The Jersey Fox-hunt," gave all the comedians an opportunity to create much laughter. Attendance good.

THERE WERE NO FRESH APPEARANCES at the Eagle Theatre last week. The novelties consisted of a compressed one-act version of "Girofle-Girofla," with Miss Julia Mathews and G. H. Macdermott in the chief characters, and an Ethiopian sketch entitled "Which is Which?" The idea of its plot was derived from "The Comedy of Errors." The sketch portrays the ludicrous mistakes which arise in consequence of an elderly gentleman engaging a colored servant, who is unwittingly followed by another person who closely resembles him in every particular, and who, out of spite for some grievance, is determined to have him discharged from every situation he might obtain. As the impersonators of these two colored individuals—John Wild and Luke Schoolcraft—did not resemble each other in hardly any respect, the sketch was pointless. The attendance has been light. The pantomime announced for Dec. 20 has been postponed until the 27th. Grimaldi Adams is to appear as clown.

CHARLES FECHTER was compelled to cancel his engagement at the Lyceum Theatre the past week. He was unable to perform on Friday evening, in consequence of an old wound upon one of his limbs having broken out afresh. His physician advises him to take absolute rest. It is thought that he may possibly have to submit to another surgical operation.

AN AGENT of Courtney & Sanford's Circus is now in this city, at the Revere House, for the purpose of engaging talent.

A SCARCITY OF PROGRAMMES in Booth's Theatre for some time past led the managers to investigate the matter, when it was discovered that one of the boys engaged in the theatre was in the habit of passing large quantities, nightly, through the door leading to Sixth avenue, to a confederate, and the following day they were sold to some dealer in old paper. There is no trouble now in getting a bill at any hour.

A CABLE TELEGRAM from the Orrins to THE CLIPPER, dated Liverpool, Eng., Dec. 20, announces their safe arrival in that port.

DRAMATIC.

Managers, Agents, Doorkeepers, and Others

are respectfully requested not to extend any courtesies or information to persons claiming to be correspondents of THE NEW YORK CLIPPER, unless they can exhibit a card of a LILAC COLOR, with an engraving of THE CLIPPER BUILDING on one side, and on the other the names of the city, correspondent, etc., signed by the proprietor of the paper, with the stamp of the office, and date of Sept. 1, 1875, affixed thereunto, each card running for six months. Every authorized correspondent is supplied with a card of the above description, and has no authority to use any other upon our behalf. Managers will save themselves from imposition by demanding an exhibition of said card, and refusing to accept any excuse whatever for its non-production. The card is not transferable; and, if it be presented by any person other than the one whose name it bears, managers and others will confer a favor if they will retain it and mail it to this office.

Persons applying for the position of correspondent are respectfully requested to consider SILENCE A NEGATIVE.

"LITTLE EM'LY" was produced at the Arch-street Theatre, Philadelphia, during the week ending Dec. 18, with George Fawcett Rowe as Wilkins Micawber. He was ably assisted by Miss Mary Stuart as Mrs. Micawber, Miss Georgie Drew as Little Em'ly, Miss Florence Noble as Rose Dartle, Miss Rose Goodall as Martha, and John W. Blaisdell as Peggotty. The Madrigal Boys constituted a feature in "Little Em'ly," which was presented with the same care and completeness that have always marked this theatre. Mrs. Julia E. Dunn's spectacular drama of "Ahmed, the Captive Prince," will be produced on the 20th inst. for the first time in Philadelphia. The cast includes Miss Adah Richmond and Miss Annie Kemp Bowler, who have been specially engaged, with Mons. Frederick and Little Pauline in their specialties, and a large ballet troupe, led by Mlle. Betty Remmelsberg.

EDWIN BOOTH, during the fourth and last week of his engagement at the Walnut-street Theatre, Philadelphia, appeared in "Henry VIII," "Richard II," "Hamlet," "Lady of Lyons," and "Katharine and Petruchio." His personation of Cardinal Wolsey in "Henry VIII" was the first that was given in many years in Philadelphia. His engagement closed Dec. 18, and he will be followed by Miss Charlotte Thompson in "Jane Eyre" on the 20th inst., with the Mexican Juvenile Opera Company in "Belle Helene" and "Grand Duchess" at the matinees from Dec. 20 to 24, inclusive. F. S. Chanfrau commences an engagement here on the 3d of January in "The Octoroon," and he will be followed by the Kiralfys "Around the World in Eighty Days."

MISS RENA in her drama of "Cush" can be engaged through her agent, F. G. Maeder, who advertises.

DEATH OF MRS. MELINDA JONES.—This well-known actress died in Boston, Mass., Dec. 12, of dropsy, at the age of about 60 years. She was a native of this city, and her maiden name was Topping. When quite young she married George Jones, then a popular actor, and now known as the Count Joannes. Mrs. Jones made her debut Feb. 22, 1837, at the Bowery Theatre, in this city, under the designation of "A Young Lady," acting Bianca in "Fazio," the occasion being her husband's benefit. Her success was such that she adopted the stage as a profession, and speedily won her way to a front rank. She has performed in all of the principal theatres in this country, as both a stock actress and a star. She occasionally acted male characters with good effect, and won much reputation as an impersonator of Romeo. She had a tall, commanding figure, a majestic presence, and a voice of much sweetness and power. Most of her greatest successes were achieved in melodramatic characters, for which she had an especial fondness. She had acted in support of all the principal male stars that have visited this country since she had been on the boards, and was often specially engaged to do so. Of late years she has resided in Boston, Mass., where many years of her professional life were passed, and at various times she had acted in all of the theatres there. Her last regular engagement was at the Globe Theatre during the season of 1870-1, in that city, but she subsequently acted with several traveling companies. She instructed her daughter Avonia in the dramatic art, and brought her out on the stage at the People's Theatre, Cincinnati, O., April 18, 1856, and for some few years thereafter Mrs. Jones did not pursue her profession, but accompanied her daughter on starring tours. Avonia Jones subsequently married the late G. V. Brooke, and died in Bond street, this city, Oct. 4, 1867. Mrs. Jones left another daughter, who is the wife of P. F. Bonney, a merchant in Boston. She is now in Europe with her daughter, the deceased's grand-daughter, who is now singing with success upon the lyric stage. For over a year past, owing to the disease which caused her death, Mrs. Jones had been incapacitated from pursuing her profession, and, not having saved anything from her pecuniary receipts in more prosperous times, she was in very straitened circumstances. It is but just to state that many professionals who had known her in more prosperous times aided her pecuniarily in a very quiet manner. Her funeral took place on Tuesday, Dec. 14, and her remains were interred in Mount Auburn Cemetery. We append the following tribute to her memory, which has been sent us for publication:

NEW YORK, Dec. 16, 1875.

DEAR SIR:—Having just learned of the death of Mrs. Melinda Jones, I cannot let the opportunity pass without offering a few passing remarks at the demise of one who was a very dear friend of mine—a great artist in her profession, and a loving, good-hearted woman. It is, indeed, a bitter addition to the sorrow which must be felt by every admirer of the stage at the loss of so many valuable members of the profession—that, as an additional branch of the professional tree is cut off, the trunk becomes more withered; and if not torn up by the roots or felled by the patent axe of the destroyer, it must die from want of proper support. In the demise of Mrs. Jones the stage has lost one of its best and brightest ornaments, whose useful and not undistinguished life revealed a finished artist. Mentally accomplished, graceful in speech, gentle in manner withal, her virtues tempered by a sweet Christianity, "pure as the prayer which childhood wafts above," she was well fitted for a reign of reason and of love. Hers was a liberal heart, and it was ever devising liberal things, and, although I may never grasp the friendly hand again, I shall cherish in my heart the most pleasant recollections of her countenance. Every impulse of her nature was pure and benevolent, and every scheme having for its object the good of humanity enlisted her sympathy and hearty co-operation. Her intercourse with society was exemplary in the highest degree, and she imparted a charm to every social circle that knew her presence. Generous, full of fun, whole-souled, high-minded, and conscientious in all her undertakings, proud of her profession, possessing great shrewdness, and "honest to a fault," she was very popular among all her sister and brother colaborers. She was a woman of fine person and attractive manner, with a clear voice and superior conversational powers. Her intercourse was full of dignity, and remarkable for its constant display of intelligence, good sense and judgment. She understood every manner of business, questions of conduct, the line of rectitude, and the adaptation of the best means to the highest ends. She was a very Dorcas in labors of love and mercy. She exhibited in a remarkable manner what an amount of good a determined purpose with a corresponding effort can effect without the aid of large pecuniary means. But the time had come when she must act in a higher, holier and happier sphere. The work of her Master was done on earth. Though death came suddenly, he did not come unexpectedly. For months she had been a sufferer, and during the latter days of her life had known little freedom from great bodily disease. To the last, though under much bodily anguish, she was thoughtful of her daughter, who is studying music in Milan, Italy. She was one of those wise ones who always have their lamp burning and their loins girded. She feared not to traverse "the valley of the shadow of death," for she knew Who had promised to be with her. There were no agitations of mind, no hurried and unsatisfactory preparations for the mighty future. All was calm and serene. May bright flowers cluster around her resting-place, for even the birds of the air will carol their songs, and make sweet melody around the rose and the myrtle which will bloom over her dust.

"We all within our graves shall sleep
A hundred years to come;
No living soul for us will weep
A hundred years to come;
But other men our land will till,
And others then our streets will fill;
And other birds will sing as gay,
And bright the sun shine as to-day,
A hundred years to come."

COL. T. ALLSTON BROWN

SUDDEN DEATH OF EDWARD EDDY.—A telegram received in this city Dec. 18 from Kingston, Jamaica, informs us that this distinguished actor died there on that day from the effects of a stroke of apoplexy. Mr. Eddy was born in Troy, N. Y., in 1820. He made his first appearance in public at the Franklin Theatre, in this city, May 9, 1839, for Mr. Goodenow's benefit, in a recitation entitled "The Indian's Lament." It may be worthy of mention that John G. Cartlitch, whose death we record elsewhere in this issue, also made his first appearance in New York, at the same theatre, during the month of June following. Mr. Eddy afterwards adopted the stage as a profession, and acted in neighboring cities. In 1841 we find him playing second low comedy in Baltimore, Md. On April 6, 1846, he made his first acknowledged appearance in New York at the Greenwich Theatre (formerly the Richmond Hill), on the southeast corner of Varick and Charlton streets, acting Othello. The following season he went to Boston, Mass., and was engaged at the National Theatre, then under the management of the late William Pelby. He remained there, acting leading characters, until the Spring of 1851 when he came to this city, and was engaged by the late Thomas S. Hamblin for the Bowery Theatre, where he made his first appearance March 13, 1851, acting Cardinal Richelieu. Mr. Eddy became very popular with the patrons of this theatre, and for many years was one of the strongest attractions that could be offered to the public. When "The Corsican Brothers" was first acted in America, at the Bowery Theatre, April 21, 1852, Mr. Eddy was the original representative of the twin brothers Dei Franchi. At the opening of the Metropolitan Theatre (subsequently the Winter Garden), in this city, Sept. 18, 1854, Mr. Eddy was engaged as one of the principal attractions, and after the close of the season, in January, 1855, he went on a starring tour, and also played a brief engagement at the Bowery Theatre the following April. In 1856 he managed for a time Burton's Old Theatre, in Chambers street. The following year he returned to the Old Bowery. On Oct. 18, 1858, he assumed the management of the Old Broadway Theatre, and on March 7, 1859, he brought out "Antony and Cleopatra," which ran until April 2, inclusive, when that theatre was closed forever, and shortly afterwards was leveled to the earth. On April 18, 1859, he became manager of Niblo's Garden, and reproduced "Antony and Cleopatra" there, with the late Julia Dean as Cleopatra, on April 25. Mr. Eddy terminated his management Dec. 17 of that year. In July, 1860, he made his first appearance at the New Bowery Theatre, and played until the end of August, attracting very large audiences. For some years after this he starred through the country, playing one or two engagements each year at the Bowery Theatres. About 1863 or 4 he was associated with Ben De Bar in the management of the St. Charles Theatre, New Orleans, and continued so for several years. On Dec. 28, 1864, his wife died in that city, and from that time forth Mr. Eddy became a changed man. He idolized his wife, and was inconsolable for her loss. After retiring from management in New Orleans, he returned to this city; but he could not go to his old home, a magnificent rural residence in Mott Haven, where everything would remind him of his beloved wife, and he remained in the city. He neglected business affairs, and the competency which he had acquired by his professional labors was largely diminished. During the past few years he has acted only occasionally, and chiefly in the neighboring towns. During the season of 1874-5 he, with Charles R. Thorne Sr., managed Niblo's Garden for a short time, and there he made his last appearance on the metropolitan stage. His last appearance in America was in Elizabeth, N. J., during the latter part of October, when he acted in "The Ragpicker of Paris," supported by a dramatic company, under the management of Tom Ward. On Nov. 3 he, in company with Miss Henrietta Irving, sailed in the steamship Henry Chauncey for Kingston, Jamaica, to fulfill a series of star engagements with Holland's Dramatic Company. Many of our younger readers may wonder why this celebrated actor has not been oftener of late upon the boards of our first-class theatres. It is because the school of acting in which Mr. Eddy was educated and the taste for it have passed away. He was considered as great in his special characters as the late Edwin Forrest was in his. In private life he was a warm friend and a bitter enemy. He was well educated, and possessed a vast fund of general knowledge. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and held high rank in that order. He leaves four sons, a daughter, and a large circle of friends and acquaintances to mourn his demise. By these his death was entirely unlooked for, though to himself we believe that it was not unexpected, as, during a conversation one of the staff of THE CLIPPER had with him on the afternoon of the day before he sailed for the West Indies, he on more than one occasion somewhat sorrowfully remarked that he might be going there to die. The remains will, we believe, be brought to this city for interment.

AT FOX'S AMERICAN THEATRE, Philadelphia, the novel features presented during the week ending Dec. 18 included the aquatic specialties of Lurline the "Water Queen" and Watson the "Man-fish;" the musical act of the Raynor Brothers meeting with well-deserved applause; Bobby Daily's quaint and comical songs-and-dances; the sentimental and operatic vocalism of Miss Mary Rexe, who is the fortunate possessor of a very sweet voice; the Irish songs-and-dances of Frank Mara, a decided favorite; and Hernandez Foster's Monday in the concluding play of "Jack Harkaway Afloat and Ashore." The Turners, Schrode Brothers and Morreste, and Miss Charlotte M. Stanley in "Esmeralda" are the new people on the 20th inst. Lurline and Watson and "The Big Four" closed on the 18th inst., business during the past week being good.

"MARRIED IN HASTE" constituted the programme at the Chestnut-street Theatre, Philadelphia, during the past week, the attendance exhibiting an improvement, and warranting its retention for another and third week—a success deserved not only by the intrinsic merits of the comedy, but also by the capable manner in which the respective parts are personated, and the tasteful mounting it has received. "Caste" will shortly be produced, in which F. F. Mackay will make his first appearance this season in the character of Eccles.

MRS. JOHN DREW, and those members of her stock company not in the play of "Ahmed," will perform the comedies "Leap Lear" and "Simpson & Co." at the Norristown, Pa., Music Hall on Christmas-night, and at the Wilmington, Del., Opera-house on Friday, Dec. 31.

J. A. ARNOLD withdrew from the management of the Portland (Me.) Museum on Dec. 11. G. B. Waldron has been engaged by the remaining partner to open 27, to supply Mr. Arnold's place as leading man. H. L. Bascomb left the company 14.

MILTON NOBLES has changed the name of his drama to "The Phoenix," and it is to be performed for the first time under that title in Troy, N. Y., Dec. 27.

E. L. DAVENPORT is to act this week in Troy, N. Y.

FURBISH'S Fifth-avenue Company perform in "The Two Orphans" at Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

OUR BOSTON, MASS., correspondent, writing on Dec. 18, thus reviews amusements in that city: "'Saratoga' was produced at the Museum for the first time (although not the first time in Boston) on Dec. 13 and drew light houses during the week, and this afternoon it is to be withdrawn. The piece is not one that will bear revival, and at its first production at the Globe it had such a long run that everyone who wanted to see it at all had already done so. The cast at the Museum is a good one. Charles Barron as Bob had a part peculiarly in his line, and Annie Clarke was very good as Effie, and the rest of the company appeared to advantage. This evening Miss Clarke is to have a benefit, and will present 'Article 47' for the first time in several years. The next attraction will be 'Alixe,' and 'Rose Michel' is in preparation......At the Globe 'Caste' and 'Our Boys' have filled out the week. To-night will be presented the new holiday bill of 'King Turko the Terrible' and 'Sweethearts.' In the burlesque Laura Joyce is to appear, and W. T. W. Ball of this city, well known as a former critic of the *Traveler*, is to make his debut on the stage......At the Howard Athenaeum 'Tom Trunnion' was produced 13, with J. B. Studley in the title-role. He acted most creditably, and the play seemed to take the popular heart. In addition there was an excellent variety entertainment, in which the Connemara Cuckoos in Irish songs-and-dances were very good, Jennie Engle, Mlle. De Granville, the Claire Sisters, Cotton and Birdue, and M. Callagher took part. Harry Bloodgood appeared also in 'Uncle Rufe's Home,' and the entertainment closed with 'The Man from Lynn.'......Kate Claxton and Mrs. Marie Wilkins appeared in 'The Two Orphans' at the Boston Theatre 13. Miss Claxton is a charming and talented little lady, and Mrs. Wilkins' impersonation of La Frochard is a powerful and grotesquely picturesque performance. Business fair."

AT THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Newark, N. J., Jarrett & Palmer's Combination opened Dec. 16 for two nights and a matinee. They produced "Henry V." The attendance the first night was very small, which so disgusted the management that, upon the finish of the performance, they packed up their effects, settled bills, and quit town......Announcements: J. M. Ward in "Inshavogue" 20......Mrs. Emma Waller as Meg Merrilies 22, and "The Two Orphans", by a company from New York, 25.

THE DRAMATIC COMPANY from the Euclid-avenue Opera-house performed in Columbus, O., Dec. 14, 15, 16.

THE FOX "HUMPTY DUMPTY" TROUPE performed in Columbus, O., Dec. 11, 13, Sandusky 14, Toledo 15, Fort Wayne 16, Lafayette 17.

ROBERT MCWADE'S COMBINATION is to visit Columbus, O., Dec. 24, 25.

JOHN T. RAYMOND acted at the National Theatre, Washington, D. C., during the past week, Colonel Mulberry Sellers to the largest audiences this theatre has been favored with this season. Mr. Raymond's impersonation is well known to readers of THE CLIPPER. Miss Marie Gordon (Mrs. Raymond) made her debut in Washington, appearing in the unsatisfactory role of Laura Hawkins. She is a remarkably pretty woman, easy and graceful in her manners, dresses handsomely, and possesses ability as an actress which needs only fitting opportunity for its proper display. Sam Glenn as the prosecuting attorney was capital. George Denham's make-up and acting of the part of the colored servant Uncle Daniel were one of the most perfect bits of character acting that we have ever seen. Harry Pearson as Si Hawkins was out of his element. Mr. Walters as Clay Hawkins deserves mention for earnest and natural acting. Of the rest of the cast we think the least said the better. The scenery and appointments were all that could be desired. Mr. Raymond will remain during the present week, and will be followed Dec. 27 by the Kiralfy Brothers' "Around the World in Eighty Days." Advices of Dec. 19.

MAGGIE MITCHELL and company opened at the Euclid-avenue Opera-house, Cleveland, O., 13, in "Fanchon." The attendance was very good, and has continued so ever since. "Jane Eyre" was produced 14, "Little Barefoot" 15, "Pearl of Savoy" 16, "Lorle" 17. "Fanchon" will be reproduced at the Saturday matinee, and "Little Barefoot" concludes the engagement 18. The regular company of this house return 20......E. Murray Day has accepted an engagement in Montreal.

LAWRENCE BARRETT acted in the Providence (R. I.) Opera-house the past week to good business. The following pieces were presented: "Man o' Airlie," "Hamlet," "Richelieu," "The Iron Chest," "David Garrick" and "Othello." The support throughout was good. "The Big Bonanza" by the stock company is announced for this week. Baker and Farron will travel over the New England circuit for three weeks, beginning Jan. 10 under Manager Henderson.

KATIE PUTNAM and a company began a season of one week at the Richmond (Va.) Theatre Dec. 13. "The Old Curiosity Shop" was the opening play, and Miss Putnam's impersonation of the dual role of Little Nell and the Marchioness was a natural and fine piece of acting. The Dick Swiveller of Mr. Sullivan and the Quilp of Mr. Pratt could have been improved upon considerably. "The Daughter of the Regiment" was given 14, "Little Barefoot" 15, "Jane Eyre" 16, "Fanchon" 17, "The Old Curiosity Shop" was repeated for the Saturday matinee, and "Blade o' Grass" 18. Letter of Dec. 19.

ADA C. MURRAY, who plays juveniles, soubrettes, and boys, can be engaged through her agent, Frank H. Clark, who advertises.

ROBERT MCWADE will play in Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 27, 28, in "Rip."

FRANK FRAYNE and company begin a week's engagement at the Opera-house, Wheeling, W. Va., commencing Dec. 20. Chas. Boyd, comedian, has been added to the company.

MRS. E. WALLER, supported by a New York company, is to appear at Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 23, Elmira 24 and 25.

JANE COOMBS is billed one week at the Grand Opera-house, Detroit, commencing 20, the Kellogg Opera Troupe following on the 27th, for a week.

TO OUR DEATH-LIST we are called upon to add the name of Miss Annie S. Winslow, who for the past ten years had been a member of the Boston (Mass.) Theatre company, and who died of consumption in that city Dec. 13. She appeared only in minor characters and in the ballet. She was a kind, good-hearted girl, and a general favorite with the members of the company. Her funeral took place on Wednesday last from her mother's residence, in Blossom court.

DEATH OF A THEATRICAL MANAGER.—Benjamin W. Thayer, senior member of the firm of Thayer & Tompkins, proprietors and managers of the Boston (Mass.) Theatre, died in that city at half-past nine, Friday evening, Dec. 17, of Bright's disease of the kidneys. He was 61 years of age. He was a large speculator in real-estate, and a money-lender well known on State street. He was born in Charlestown, and began life quite poor, so that his large fortune is due entirely to his own exertions. His management of the Boston Theatre has openly existed for some three years past. Previously to that time he had been one of the real, though not openly acknowledged, powers behind the throne. The mode in which he obtained possession, the law-suits ensuing therefrom, and the public discussion regarding it, are too fresh to need repetition here. He was a shrewd, ready business man, and was well versed in the modes of making money. He was interested in and at one time a director of the Metropolitan Horse Railroad, and was a large owner in *The Sunday Times*, and knew well how to control the opinions of the public press and their mode of expression. His funeral was arranged to take place on Monday afternoon, Dec. 20, from his late residence, No. 1 Pelham place.

THE HALL COMBINATION reappeared at Owens' Academy, Charleston, S. C., on Monday evening, Dec. 13. Bronson Howard's satire of "Saratoga" was given to a select audience, who filled every seat in the house. Miss Ada Gilman as Effie Remington, Miss Emma Pierce as Mrs. Carter, Miss Agnes Proctor as Virginia Vanderpool, Mr. James as Bob Sackett, and Whiffin as Benedict were more than fine. The entire company is the best-selected party that we have had for some time. "Frou-Frou" was the selection 14, and another deservedly crowded house greeted them. They appear in Columbia S. C., 15, 16, Augusta, Ga., 17, 18, Atlanta 20, Chattanooga 21, Nashville 22, 23, Evansville Ind., 24, 25. Ben De Bar opens on the 17th as Falstaff. Advices of Dec. 16.

FOR CHRISTMAS, Geo. W. Harrison is to produce "The Two Orphans" at Opera-house, Newark, N. J., afternoon and evening; Clara Morris plays Camille at Academy of Music, Brooklyn, Christmas-night, under the management of John P. Smith; and Augustin Daly is to present "Alphonse" in New Brunswick, N. J., Christmas night.

MONS. CARDELLA, ballet-master, has been engaged for the remainder of the season at the Academy of Music, Montreal, Canada. Col. T. Allston Brown is also engaging a corps de ballet, which he will send on the 22d inst.

WELSH EDWARDS has been engaged to play Will Atkins in the burlesque of "Robinson Crusoe" at Fox's Theatre, Philadelphia, commencing on the 27th inst.

JAMES M. WARD plays in "Inshavogue" and "Irish Lion" in Poughkeepsie Christmas-night; also in Newark, N. J., New-Year's night.

IMOGENE has gone out traveling for a brief tour, under the management of B. A. Baker. "Ingomisea" is the play.

GEO. FAWCETT ROWE presents "Little Em'ly" in Springfield, Mass., Christmas, and Maude Granger appears in "Camille" in Bridgeport, Ct., same day.

AT THE OPERA-HOUSE, Fall River, Mass., Dec. 18, "A Conditional Pardon" was the play. Announced for 21, "The Drunkard," by amateurs; 25, Providence Opera-house Company; 28, Syd. France in "Marked for Life."

GEO. W. MIDDLETON can be engaged to perform in the plays mentioned in his card in this issue. His business manager, Jno. Hammond, requests Miss Grayson, Ed. Coleman and H. Tavies to correspond immediately at the address given.

THE BELLA GOLDEN TROUPE is to play this week in Minonk, Ill., Worthington Dec. 27, 28, Pekin, 29, 30, 31, Jan. 1.

EDWIN BYRON, the boy tragedian, was the star the past week at the Portland (Me.) Museum. Pressure upon our columns compels us to omit our correspondent's letter. Business light.

"THE SPY," with Dominick Murray as the stellar attraction, was acted during the entire past week at the Opera-house, Albany, N. Y., to average fair business. Mr. Murray invested the role of Harvey Birch with intensity and feeling, and by his clever acting held the sympathies of his audience until the close of the play. C. W. Barry made up exceedingly well for General Washington, and also displayed excellent qualities as an actor. George Learock as Captain Jack Lawton, E. A. Eberle as Mr. Wharton, and J. F. Herne as Major Dunwoodie were very good. H. Ward was hardly satisfactory as Doctor Sitgreaves, while F. De Vernon, Alex. Byers and J. Mitchell, who acted respectively Captain Wharton, Silas Skunk and Major Willmore, paid due attention to their parts. Miss Ransom was pleasing as Frances, and the same may be said of Mrs. Eberle as Jeanette. The rest of the cast embraced M. Henry, J. Eddinger, G. W. Smith, Annie Mostyn and Bella Farrett. "The Naiad Queen," which has been in preparation for some time, will be produced Dec. 23. Advices of Dec. 18.

LILLIE ELDRIDGE is now the star attraction of Morris & Whiteley's Dramatic Company, late the Susan Denin Combination, and managers desiring to arrange dates can address as per advertisement.

AT THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Montreal, "The Two Orphans" was produced Dec. 16 before a large audience, and is likely to have a long run. The principal characters are sustained by the Misses Cameron and Weaver, and Messrs. Morris, McDowell and Brink. Miss Clara Fisher, a recent addition to the stock-company, has already worked herself into public favor. Letter of Dec. 18.

PHOSA MCALLISTER, leading lady, will be at liberty after Dec. 25. Address care of this office.

THE BROOKLYN THEATRE has presented Mr. Lester Wallack the past week in three of his favorite characters, supported, in addition to his regular company, by Misses Effie Germon, Ione Burke, Meta and Kate Bartlett.

SHERIDAN & MACK'S COMBINATION drew fair houses at Griswold's Opera-house, Troy, N. Y., Dec. 16, 17, 18. Their route is Albany 20, 21, 22, Fultonville 23, Cohoes 24, 25, Pittsfield, Mass., 27, Westfield 28, Holyoke 29, Springfield 30, Worcester 31.

CINCINNATI DRAMATIC NEWS to Dec. 17 is sent as appended by our correspondent: "At Wood's Theatre Joseph Proctor opened 13 in 'Nick of the Woods.' The play was kept on three nights, being followed by 'Ambition' Thursday, Friday, and the matinee Saturday; Saturday evening 'Nick of the Woods' and 'O'Neal' were given. The company has figured to advantage this week. Laura Don, a newly-engaged leading lady, appeared as Telia Doe and Catherine Howard, and impressed the audience favorably. R. F. Russell, John Marble, B. R. Graham, Russell Soggs, J. A. Mackey, J. C. Craven, Jennie McClellan, Miss C. J. Johnson, and Ella Mayer filled the other roles with ability. As usual in this theatre, the plays were handsomely put on. The attendance has been quite fair. Mr. Proctor closes with the week. On the 20th comes Frank Mayo as Davy Crockett, supported by his own combination...... The Kiralfy Brothers' Combination in 'Around the World in Eighty Days' has been the attraction at the Grand Opera-house, and the attendance has been very large. In point of ballet and in introduced attractions the spectacle will compare favorably with any on the road. The scenery is almost all carried along, and some of it is beautiful—noticeably the one representing the sinking of the ship near Liverpool. It will be run this week only. On the 20th comes the 'Jack and Jill' Pantomime Company. The Grand Opera-house Company is in Chillicothe this evening. After two weeks in Detroit the company returns here Jan. 3."

MISS ALICE KINGSBURY was the star at Col. Wood's Museum, Philadelphia, last week, attracting fair audiences by an effective personation of the part of Telula in "The Child of the Savanna." She was well seconded by the stock company, Wm. Davidge Jr. creating much amusement by his comic efforts in the part of Clum. "Irish Mesmerizer" and "A Widow Hunt" were given at the matinees. E. F. Thorne made his reappearance here on the 20th inst., in "Eustache Baudin." On the 23d inst. the melodramatic spectacle of "The Forty Thieves" will receive production for the first time here.

AUGUSTA DARGON played to a fair attendance only at the Opera-house, Rochester, N. Y., last week, appearing in "Guy Mannering" Dec. 13, 14, "Queen Mary" 15, 16, "Deborah" 17. Miss Dargon is a good artist, and deserved better patronage. Her Queen Mary was a fine impersonation. John Clinton Hall's King Philip, Harry Duffield's Simon Renard, and Mary Young's Princess Elizabeth were good renditions. Mlle. Titiens was to appear in concert Dec. 18, and on the 20th "The Two Orphans" will be produced, to continue six nights and two matinees, with Minnie Palmer as Louise, Mary Young as Henriette, and J. Clinton Hall as Pierre.

"SI SLOCUM" was produced at the Pittsburg (Pa.) Opera-house Dec. 13 by the Frank Frayne Combination. Our correspondent says: "The attendance was limited, and the performances, as a whole, were not so satisfactory as when this play was presented at this theatre last season, at which time the Opera-house company was embraced in the cast. As the Frayne Combination now exists, it is not a strong organization. Some of the characters were very indifferently acted; and had not Frank Frayne, Clara Butler Frayne and two or three others displayed very creditable abilities during the progress of the drama, the entertainment would have been wearisome and insipid. Business for the week, light. J. Newton Gotthold's new play is entitled 'The Victor of Rhe, or Risen from the Dead,' and will have its initial representation on Dec. 20......Nick Roberts' 'Jack and Jill' Pantomime Troupe opened for one week at the Academy of Music on Dec. 13 to a small audience, and the attendance since has been unsatisfactory......Mr. V. E. Beamer has returned to Cleveland, O."

and Andrew Gaffney. As stated in my last letter, this will be the last week of this theatre under the present management, and in consequence matters have been very lively. Mr. Riggs the manager absented himself since the first part of the week, and the company, becoming alarmed at the prospects of no salary, refused to play; but, on being told that they might share whatever money was taken in, continued to play as usual. The dramatic star, C. F. Nichols, did not perform later than Wednesday, and 'The Gunmaker of Moscow' was substituted. The reasons given for closing are that the amount of business done here and at the Central proves conclusively that Baltimore will not support two variety theatres, and the two managers consider it expedient to close the Front, hold the lease, which has two years and a half yet to run, and run the Central Theatre jointly. S. K. Chester, B. S. Hodges and Fannie Prestige are all of the stock company that will be transferred to the Central. On Christmas-eve and Christmas matinee and night the Front will be open, and the same people and acts as at the Central will be presented, the only difference being a change in the order of the programme."

AT THE OLYMPIC THEATRE, St. Louis, Mo., Salsbury's Troubadours opened a short season 13 and filled out the week agreeably. The performance opened each evening with "Sailing Under False Colors," which gave the company an opportunity to show that they are capable of better efforts than those exhibited in "Patchwork." The audiences have been good. Furbish's Fifth-avenue Combination opens 20....... George J. Jones, treasurer of the Opera-house, had a benefit 11, the house being quite full. The principal event of the evening was the debut of Miss Adeline Carew. The lady, who is both young and good-looking, had chosen the part of Julia in "The Hunchback" for the occasion, and must be complimented for the success she made in it. She dressed the part correctly, and read the lines without faltering, which is as much as can be expected from a debutante. It was conceded on all sides that she had done better than any other debutante in the past four years—and we generally have two every year. Miss Florence Chase, the leading lady of the stock, volunteered to sing, for this occasion only, and was most enthusiastically encored. Celia Beltram and the Cawthorne Children, from the Comique, also appeared, making the evening as pleasant as one would wish. The Kellogg Opera Troupe sang during the week. Letter dated 17.

MISS LILLIE WILKINSON opened at Macauley's Theatre, Louisville, Ky., Dec. 13, in "Little Sunshine." Miss Wilkinson is an artist almost unknown in this section; therefore on her opening night the audience was small, but up to the present time the houses have increased nightly. The play shows off Miss Wilkinson's versatility in the very best light, and she grasps every situation and makes the most of it. The support by the stock company, including Messrs. Edwards, Griffith, Goodrich, Scott, Marble, Craven, and Hattie Russell, Miss Courcelles, Nellie Wright, and Ada Rehan, was very good. "Little Sunshine" remained the attraction for three nights, and was followed by "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Miss Wilkinson as Topsy, which continued throughout the week. Oliver Doud Byron opens 20. Advices of Dec. 16.

HAMILTON & GILBERT'S Dramatic Company, performing "The Two Orphans" with the permission of Messrs. Shook & Palmer, acted in Lowell, Mass., Dec. 17, Taunton 18, and is billed to show in Newport, R. I., 20, Worcester, Mass., 21, Manchester 22, Salem 23, Chelsea 24, Lynn 25. The cast includes the names of W. J. Fleming, W. L. Crawford, Harry Gilbert, J. V. Daily, W. H. Hamilton, R. Wilson, J. E. Howe, H. Fisher, W. A. Riddell, W. H. Stuart, J. Evans, G. Thomson, the Misses Jennie Palmer, Fannie Pearson, Eva West, Gussie Logan, Curtis, Sinclair, Parsons, Wilson, Stevens and Edwards.

OUR CINCINNATI, O., correspondent, in our past issue, mentioned that Fanny Denham and Nellie Fielding performed at Wood's Theatre in that city, supporting the Frank Frayne Combination. We are informed that there are no ladies bearing those names in the company, and that the Misses Jennie Johnson and Viola Aldine were the ladies who actually appeared.

MISS LILLIE ELDRIDGE has been engaged by Col. T. Morris to fill the place of the late Susan Denin as leading lady, and the company will fill all engagements made for the season. They are to appear at Canton, O., Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, 1876.

ANOTHER ACTOR GONE.—Intelligence has just reached us of the demise of Duance Percy, on Nov. 17, at the residence of his sister, Mrs. Chaffee, in Carlinville, Ill. He was 32 years of age, and died of consumption. He had been on the stage some eight years, and in time past had traveled with Selden Irwin's company and Plunkett's Combination.

THE CRISP SISTERS' STAR COMBINATION performed in Oxford, Miss., Dec. 13, 14, 15, Holly Springs 16, 17, 18, thence to Knoxville, Tenn., and Jackson, for one week in each place. The company, which is under the management of E. M. Strauss, assisted by S. M. Drake as stage-manager, includes the Misses Cecilia Crisp, Minnie Crisp, Annie James, Jessie Crisp, and Mary Martin, Messrs. Edwin Stuart, C. J. Breene, S. M. Drake, W. H. Martin, J. D. Monk, and George Monroe.

THE ADELPHI THEATRE, corner Eleventh and Wood streets, Philadelphia, is the title of a new place of amusement to be opened on the 22d inst. with a strictly legitimate and first-class variety entertainment. This once dingy-looking place of amusement has undergone a complete and much-needed transformation, and now presents a bright and cheerful aspect. Messrs. Burrows & McCool are the proprietors, with Charles Blanchett as business-manager, and Harry Phillips as stage manager, the latter being the son of the well-known actor H. B. Phillips. New scenery and an elegant drop-curtain have been painted for this establishment by Philip Gautier, and the opening company will include the Kingcade Family, Gertie Granville, Miss Clara Coleman, Erwin Thomas, the Davis Family, Harry Miller, Sandford and Fielding, Annie M. Kemp and Mlle. Lillian.

JANE COOMBS, supported by Milnes Levick, was the stellar attraction at the Academy of Music, Buffalo, N. Y., last week. "The Lady of Lyons" was acted Dec. 13, "School for Scandal" 14, "The Hunchback" 15, to moderate houses, partly owing to the stormy weather, but more from the fact that these selections have been presented here so often, especially this season, that the attraction has rather worn out. "Adrienne the Actress" was produced 16 to a fine house, despite bad weather. Miss Coombs' acting of the leading character in this play was fine, and the support rendered her by Mr. Levick, Ben G. Rogers, Fred Wren, and Miss Nellie Jones was all that could be desired. "The Sphynx" 18 drew another fine house. Both these pieces are announced for matinee and Saturday-evening performance 18. Miss Coombs opens in Detroit 20, and Cleveland one week later. Edwin Adams opens here 20, for one week. Letter of Dec. 17.

C. A. POTTER, formerly agent of the Alleghanians, has joined Lanier's Dramatic Company as advance agent. Col. Jo. Chenett, who has been agent the past season for that troupe, has joined Harry Robinson's Minstrels.

PRESENTATION.—On Dec. 15, just before the curtain of the Opera-house in Evansville, Ind., rolled up for the performance of "The Big Bonanza" by the Selden Irwin Combination, the entire company were summoned upon the stage, and Aylmer St. Clair, on behalf of the ladies and gentlemen there assembled, presented Harry Rainforth with an elegant chased gold ring as a token of their esteem and regard. The occasion was Mr. Rainforth's twenty-fourth birthday.

THE TOWNSEND FAMILY closed a prosperous season of three nights at Theresa, N. Y., on Dec. 16. The pieces produced were "Lost in London," "The Fast Young Lady," "Pizarro," "The Loan of a Lover," "Richard III" and "The Two Barristers," with John Townsend as the star, supported by his several sons and daughters, and other members of the troupe. Mr. Charles A. Lagrange, for several years with the Herndon Dramatic Company, recently joined the Townsend Family as advance agent. They were billed in Lowville, N. Y., for Dec. 17, 18, 20, 21, and are to be in Boonville 22, 23, 24, 25, thence to Hamilton and Norwich.

FRED MARSDEN notifies managers and stars that he has purchased Miss Helen Temple's interest in the play of "Nemesis" (of which he is the author), and warns all parties against producing it without his permission. See card.

THE SELDEN IRWIN COMBINATION closed a brief season in Evansville, Ind., Dec. 16, going thence to Henderson, Ky., 17, 18, 19, Paducah 21, 22, 23, 24.

GEORGE A. ARCHER, who when last heard from by his relatives was in Iowa, and was supposed to be a member of Plunkett's Combination, is earnestly requested by his mother to write her.

W. V. BRYER'S "ENOCH ARDEN" COMBINATION performed in Canton, Mo., the past week, and will show this week in Macon, and next in Moberley.

FROM BALTIMORE, MD., under date of Dec. 19, our correspondent wrote as follows: "'The Big Bonanza' was acted by the stock company at Ford's Opera-house during the week. It was produced too soon after its excellent representation here by Daly's Fifth-avenue Company, and that performance is still green in our memories. The company doubtless did their best, and they are deserving of credit, but they did not give satisfaction. Mr. Lanagan as Prof. Cadwallader in the first act was clever, but in the others descended to mediocrity. Mrs. Germon, Rose Osborne and H. A. Webber did somewhat better than the rest, and deserve commendation. The settings of the piece were very fine. Dec. 20, 'Around the World in Eighty Days.' ......'Jane Eyre' has often been played here before, but never in such a satisfactory manner as it was at the Academy of Music on Dec. 13 by Charlotte Thompson and her company. The audiences, though small, were very appreciative. Miss Thompson gave a very pleasing conception of Jane Eyre. W. E. Sheridan's Lord Rochester was a dignified and courtly piece of acting, and J. J. Wallace as Buttercup was very funny. In fact, the entire cast was excellent. The play ran the entire week, with the exception of Saturday night, when 'East Lynne' was substituted. Augusta Dargon opens in 'Deborah' Dec. 20, with the same company that supported Charlotte Thompson. The second week of Sidney C. France at the Holliday-street Theatre was marked by meagre attendance. 'Marked for Life' was the attraction. During the performance on Wednesday evening Grace Marco, who had been complaining of feeling unwell during the day, was stricken with an attack of heart-disease. She was removed to her hotel, but has since been able to act. Dominick Murray opens Dec. 20.......The dramatic feature at the Front-street Theatre was C. F. Nichols in a drama entitled 'Jem Sharkey,' which was creditably produced by the stock company. The new variety people on Dec. 13 were Seamon and Somers, Minnie Seamon, the Poele Brothers,

DEATH has claimed another member of the profession. On the morning of Dec. 12, as the Selden Irwin Combination was en route from Paris, Ill., to Evansville, Thomas Sidney Holland, the stage-manager of the company, fell upon the platform of the station in Terre Haute, Ind., in a fit of apoplexy, and died five minutes afterwards. Erroneous reports have gained circulation that he died from the immediate effects of intemperance. A correspondent traveling with the company writes us, under date of Dec. 14, that "he had been indulging in intoxicating beverages a few days previously, but for thirty-six hours before his death he had not done so; and during that time he was constantly under the care of Selden Irwin, the manager of the troupe. He complained of feeling very badly, and apparently felt that his end was near. The company showed him every attention while life lasted. The body was placed in charge of Isaac Bald, undertaker, and information of Mr. Holland's death was telegraphed to his mother. Should the relatives fail to claim the remains, they will be interred at the expense of the Selden Irwin Combination." Mr. Holland was thirty-six years of age, and made his debut at the National Theatre, Cincinnati, O., about 1852. In 1860 he married a lady of wealth, and shortly afterwards he entered the army. During that time, it is said, he was engaged in speculating in cotton, by which he realized $160,000. After the close of the war he returned to the stage, but his "irregularities" became so excessive that his wife obtained a divorce from him, and shortly afterwards married a gentleman living in Chicago, Ill. This so affected Mr. Holland that he plunged into greater excesses, and squandered his entire fortune. Mr. Irwin fell in with him, straightened him up, and together they managed in Cairo, Ill., for some time. After they separated, Mr. Holland fulfilled a few engagements with other companies. When Mr. Irwin started out this season for a tour he found Mr. Holland in Troy, N. Y., and gave him an engagement, which he held until his death. He had wealthy relatives and friends in Philadelphia, Pa., and his mother resides near that city.

FROM NEW ORLEANS, LA., our correspondent under date of Dec. 14 wrote as follows: "At Mrs. Chanfrau's Varieties Theatre its regular dramatic company made their entree Dec. 13 in the play entitled 'Parted.' Mrs. Chanfrau appeared in the leading role, and was honored with an abundance of floral tributes and enthusiastic demonstrations, vindicative of the high measure of personal esteem which the gifted lady enjoys, both socially and professionally, in our city. It is perhaps to be regretted that some more powerful play had not been selected for the event of the company's debut. As it is, the piece has not given any test of the general capacity of the company sufficiently well defined to justify individual criticism. Mr. Dressel, the scenic artist, has achieved, with the valuable assistance of the carpenter, another notable success in the mounting of this play. The company is composed as follows: Mrs. F. S. Chanfrau and C. W. Tayleure, lessees; Messrs. F. Mordaunt, W. F. Burroughs, George Morton, T. F. [illegible] A. Z. Chipman, C. W. Sutton, A. Torriani, [illegible] Polk, Willie Maurice, C. H. Thompson, W. [illegible], C. F. Browne, R. Jones; the Misses Ada [illegible] Eliza A. Long, Nellie Mabel, Louise St. Clair, [illegible] Gauche, Amy Egberts, Belle Bailey, Annie Hall, Rena St. Clair, Little Nellie, Mrs. E. B. Vanderen, Mrs. C. H. Thompson; H. Dressel, scenic-artist; H. Sator, leader of orchestra; E. B. Brown, business-agent; Robert Jones, stage-manager; N. C. Garland, property-maker. On the 20th John McCullough will open an engagement......Barry Sullivan, at Bidwell's Academy of Music, has achieved a success so marked that his engagement has been extended to Dec. 19. He has given, up to the present writing, 'Richelieu,' 'Hamlet,' 'Richard III' and 'Macbeth.' His triumph here, so far, has been his Hamlet. The measure of enthusiasm with which his performances have been received by the critical audiences is something remarkable in our dramatic records. Supporting the tragedian, J. F. Cathcart has, although constantly struggling against severe indisposition, done excellent service. The support by the Academy company has been very acceptably rendered, especially in the person of Miss Louie Lord, who, in the roles of Ophelia, Julie de Mortimer and Elizabeth, has brought out her talent for the legitimate with such power and discretion, in action and reading, as to win the frequent plaudits of the house. At the close of Mr. Sullivan's engagement, Mr. Bidwell will produce, with lavish and beautiful scenic appointments, 'The Ice Witch.' Mr. Sullivan goes from here to Mobile for four nights......At the St. Charles the Buffalo Bill Combination have played during the week to a fair average business. Their engagement closes 19, after which they will appear at Memphis. Lotta will appear at the St. Charles 20."

MAGGIE MITCHELL, supported by Wm. H. Harris and a company, is to play in Akron, O., Dec. 20, Canton 21, Wooster 22, Tiffin 23, Toledo 24, 25, thence to Cincinnati for the holiday week.

LOTTA, supported by Henry E. Abbey's Dramatic Company, is to perform in the St. Charles Theatre, New Orleans, La., two weeks, commencing Dec. 20, Mobile, Ala., Jan. 3, 4, 1876, Montgomery 5, Columbus, Ga., 6, Atlanta 7, 8.

JOHN E. OWENS has purchased from Dion Boucicault the rights for "Dot, or the Cricket on the Hearth," and "Grimaldi," for a period of ten years, and all applications for permission to produce those plays should be addressed to Mr. Owens, as per card in another column.

THE WALLACK COMBINATION, playing "The Two Orphans," performed in Clinton, Ia., Dec. 13, 14, Cedar Rapids 15, 16. Effie Johns and Charles Foster joined the company Dec. 6.

DALY'S FIFTH-AVENUE COMPANY were in Houston, Texas, Dec. 13, 14, Austin 15, 16, 17, 18, and are to play two weeks in Galveston, commencing 20, thence to Mobile, Ala., and North.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., we have received the following report, dated Dec. 12:

Less interest is attached to what has occurred in theatrical matters recently, than to what will occur in the near future. For instance, at the California Theatre "Our Boys" and "The Two Orphans," two plays which are decidedly attractive, but which have become tolerably well known, occupied the stage during the week. The revival of "The Two Orphans," which was made on the 10th in the presence of an enormous assemblage, was coincident with the benefit of the leading lady, Miss Bella Pateman. On the same occasion, too, that fine old actress Mrs. Judah, who for some time has been unable from illness to fill her usual stage duties, made her first appearance in four months. This was an incident in itself, and the audience manifested unusual feeling at the sight once more of her kindly, expressive face. "The Two Orphans" will remain the attraction until the 15th, when Byron's "Married in Haste" will be produced, with Barton Hill, T. W. Keene, Walter Leman, W. A. Mestayer, John Wilson, Wm. Horace Lingard, Bella Pateman and Mrs. Saunders in the cast. Gilbert's comedy of "Sweethearts" and Arthur Sullivan's comic opera of "I Ladroni" are in preparation, the latter being intended for the introduction of Miss Emmie Dunning......After Miss Katie Mayhew's benefit and the closing of the dramatic season at Maguire's Theatre, on the 10th, Prof. Herrmann the magician gave four performances, which were attended by fair success. The management is now for a time in the hands of Mme. Fabbri, who will inaugurate an opera season, giving three representations a week, on the 14th. The operas for the first week are "Fidelio," "Der Freischutz," and "La Juive."......The opening of Wade's Opera-house, on Mission street, with the spectacle of "Snowflake," is announced to take place, if possible, on the 20th. It is the impression that the house will not be ready by that time, and the inaugural will most likely occur at a later date. However, matters are being pushed rapidly, and it will not be many days at the farthest before the Opera-house will be added to the list of established theatres......Thorne's Palace Theatre, formerly known as the Amphitheatre, will be opened on the 18th, under the management of Charles R. Thorne Sr., as a home at once for variety business and melodrama. The dramatic company comprises C. R. Thorne Sr., J. A. Sawtelle, J. H. Le Roy, Frank Rea, Chas. Mestayer, Geo. Marsh, D. Belasco, Cohen, Howard, E. J. Crowell, Richard Cox, J. Barrows, J. Wallace, Kate Denin, Emily Denin, Laura Stevenson, Mrs. Frank Rea, Nellie Firmin, the McCabe Sisters, Lulu Wilson and Minnie Cowen. The melodrama chosen to open the season is "Gaspardo, or the Three Banished Men of Milan"......The California Minstrels, at the Opera-house, are still attracting large houses, the performance of its kind being of a superior character. The singing is much above the ordinary, and "The Skidmore Guard," under the command of Captain Billy Emerson, has become so popular that it is a permanent attraction......The three months' opera season at Platt's Hall closes to-night with "The Marriage of Figaro." The company, with the exception of Signor Baccei, who has gone to New York to sing with Titiens, will appear next week under the same management at Maguire's Theatre.

THE PAINFUL TASK devolves upon us to make a record of the death of John G. Cartlich, a veteran actor well known to former generations of playgoers, both in England and in this country, and who died on the afternoon of Sunday, Dec. 12, in Philadelphia, in which city he had been a resident during the past quarter of a century. Nearly all of his contemporaries have made their exeunt from this "breathing world," and it is difficult to find one to freshen our memory of events and persons long since passed into the valley of death.

From the most authentic sources at our disposal we find that he was born in Manchester, or thereabouts, in England, in 1793. He was first known as the principal tragedian of Richardson's show at the English fairs, more than half a century ago. Afterwards we find him at Astley's Amphitheatre, London, then under the management of the celebrated Ducrow. He was the original Mazeppa in the equestrian play of that title, which was first produced at that establishment at Easter, 1831, and played the part over fifteen hundred times. He came to this country about forty years ago, and held the position of stage-manager and melodramatic actor of the National Theatre, Boston, under the management of the late Wm. Pelby, and afterwards was with Wyzeman Marshall at the Eagle Theatre, in that city. He made his first appearance in Philadelphia, at the Museum, Masonic Hall, in that city, on the 30th of April, 1849, as the Count Muffennuff in the burlesque of "Lola Montez;" was afterwards at the Chestnut and National Theatres in that city, and was the original Pat Lyon when the play of that title was produced at the latter establishment. He next went to Washington, where, in conjunction with G. F. Browne, he managed the Adelphi Theatre, on Pennsylvania avenue, for nearly two seasons. In 1855 Mr. Cartlich was manager of the Troy Museum. We next find him managing in St. Louis, Cleveland, Memphis, and, lastly, the manager of a combination through some of the Western States, including in the company, among others, Stuart Robson, W. H. Wallis, Welsh Edwards and Mrs. C. Jamison. He was particularly good in the latter part of his professional career as character and heavy old men. His last appearance on the stage was at the Arch-street Theatre, Philadelphia, June 25, 1869, for the benefit of the late George S Kames, acting the character of Solomon in "The Stranger." After that he retired from public life, and for some time kept a neat cafe on Fourth street, near Vine, Philadelphia. Mr. Cartlich was a performer of utility, and, in his appropriate sphere, of much excellence, and a very honorable and upright man. The reverses of life and the precarious tenure of the actor's public favor found Mr. Cartlich in poverty in the sere and yellow of life; and chance alone bringing the knowledge of his condition to that most excellent institution, the Actors' Order of Friendship, some eighteen months ago, a committee, consisting of Mr. S. W. Turner and others, was appointed to see that he was comfortably provided for, and their sympathies assuaged, in a measure, the closing scenes of the drama of his life. Maggie Mitchell was his staunch friend to the last, contributing with liberality to his support, and he was always very expressive as regards his gratitude to her to all with whom he came in contact, and it is said that his last request was that Maggie Mitchell's letters to him should be buried with him, and that his last utterance was a prayer for her welfare. Mrs. John Drew also gave liberally to the old actor when descending the inclined plane of life, and his theatrical brethren generally were not unmindful of his sad reverses, as the custom of all professions from time immemorial has covered their distressed brethren with the mantle of charity, and as to that Christian principle the disciples of Thespis ever dwelleth in true faith, his declining years were comfortably provided for. He died of old age, and his funeral took place Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 15, from 505 Arch street, Philadelphia, the Rev. W. M. Lawrence being the officiating clergyman, and his remarks in relation to the deceased—whom he had attended in his last illness—were most touching and appropriate. A beautiful wreath and cross of flowers, from the Chestnut-street Theatre, were placed on the coffin. The pallbearers were Messrs. W. H. Bailey, W. H. Wallis, W. H. Jones and S. C. Dubois. His funeral cortege included a large representation of the theatrical profession. His interment took place in Glenwood Cemetery, Philadelphia, in a lot near that belonging to the Actors' Order of Friendship, which he had himself provided with railing and monument some five years ago, leaving only the date of his death to be inscribed on the tombstone after his demise. S. C. Dubois made some touching and appropriate remarks at the grave. He died not unlamented nor unsung as a faithful public servant, but the memory of his fellow-performers honored him as a talented, honorable and upright man, although one of those romantic Thespians who find their last resting-place in foreign lands, "by foreign hands their foreign graves adorned." His lengthy career was marked by good citizenship, and his memory deserves an appropriate record. "Rest, rest, perturbed spirit."

MUSICAL.

MRS. OATES opened a week's season at the Grand Opera-house, Detroit, Mich., Dec. 13, with the following repertory: "Girofle-Girofla" 13, and matinee 18, "La Fille de Mme. Angot" 14, "La Grande Duchesse" 15, "La Jolie Parfumeuse" 16, "La Princess de Trebizonde" 17, "Trial by Jury" and "Les Bavards" 18. Our correspondent says: "The company is very even and harmonious, none of them possessing any remarkable voices—but all good actors—and thus producing one of the most enjoyable weeks of the season at this house. John Howson (who replaces Mr. Crane of last season) is an usually fine comedian, and certainly takes rank amongst our best buffos—every motion is comical, and the audience is always kept in laughter by his drollery. Miss Rose Temple is another new face; she has a light soprano voice, fairly cultivated, but is at times too nervous in action, which experience may remove. The other members are old favorites. All in all, the troupe is greatly improved, and are sure of good houses wherever they go, if merit is the criterion. Business has been very good all the week."

THE HOLMAN English-opera Troupe will occupy Ford's Opera-house, Washington, D. C., Dec. 24, 25.

THE YOUNG MÆNNERCHOR of Philadelphia gave a concert on the 13th inst., to inaugurate their hall, at No. 417 Callowhill street, which has been undergoing material alterations during the past few weeks, and is now in a much more commodious condition.

THE MÆNNERCHOR SOCIETY of Philadelphia celebrated their fortieth anniversary on the 15th inst. at their hall, Fairmount avenue near Franklin street, in that city. The Mænnerchor is the oldest musical society in the United States, and includes among its members some of the most prominent German citizens of Philadelphia, and gentlemen were present on this occasion from kindred organizations in New York, Baltimore and other cities. It is contemplated to give a grand concert at the depot, Thirteenth and Market streets, on the 31st inst., under the direction of Prof. Jean Lewis, Gilmore's Band to be one of the features thereof.

TITIENS is to concertize at Utica, N. Y., 20, Troy 22, Springfield, Mass., 23, Boston 24.

NEARLY ONE HUNDRED sentimental songs are to be found in De Witt's "Little Rosebud" songster. See card.

THE KELLOGG OPERA COMPANY did a good business at De Bar's Opera-house, St. Louis, Mo., during the week ending Dec. 18. The audiences on the Kellogg nights were immense, and even the "off nights" were fairly attended. Our correspondent says: "We have been informed that an individual travels with the company for the sole purpose of speculating in seats. Whether this be true or not, we cannot say; but it certainly did look suspicious to see a man in the vestibule of the theatre who had all the best seats in the house for sale at exorbitant prices."

MISS JULIA GOULD, a mezzo-soprano, educated in Italy, had a benefit concert at Pike's Opera-house, Cincinnati, Dec. 17.

A PIANIST who can play brass is wanted for Kendall's Comedy Company. Address as per advertisement.

J. F. ZIMMERMAN'S Mexican Juvenile Opera Company will give five matinees at the Walnut-street Theatre, Philadelphia, opening Dec. 20 in "Belle Helene." This troupe leave early in January for Havana and South America.

"THE CECILIAN," the new vocal society of Philadelphia, under the direction of Michael H. Cross, is to perform Handel's oratorio of "The Messiah" at the Academy of Music, in that city, on the 28th inst. The solo vocal parts will be sung by Miss Thursby, Mrs. Darling and Messrs. George Simpson and A. E. Stoddart, with the instrumental part by Theo. Thomas' Orchestra.

THE VOCAL UNION of Philadelphia will give a concert on the 23d inst., at Musical Fund Hall, in that city. William Wolsieffer is the director, and Miss Emma C. Thursby the soloist on this occasion.

THE KELLOGG English-opera Company will appear at the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, for one week, commencing Jan. 17.

PETER FORSTER, a member of the Philadelphia Musical Association, was buried on the 16th inst. from his late residence in that city.

JUDGE CADWALADER, in the United States District Court, Philadelphia, on the 17th inst., confirmed the bid of $81,000 made by Oliver Ditson of Boston for the music-store of Lee & Walker, in Philadelphia, and directed the money to be deposited in the Commonwealth Bank, subject to the administration of the estate in bankruptcy.

AT THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Philadelphia, Theodore Thomas gave the third of a series of four symphony concerts on the 16th inst., the house being fairly filled. Mrs. Antoinette Sterling, contralto, and J. E. Jacobsohn, violinist, were the soloists, the former then making her last appearance in Philadelphia prior to her departure for England.

PROF. J. N. GOODALL JR., solo-violinist, trick imitator, guitarist, pianist, etc., assisted by E. A. Tilton, piano accompanyist, can be engaged by addressing as per card.

J. LEVY'S Concert Troupe gave entertainments at Martin Hall, Albany, N. Y., Dec. 15 and 17 to poor houses....The German Band did the same at Tweddle Hall on 16, and repeat 20.

DR. HANS VON BULOW made his first appearance in Philadelphia on the evening of the 17th inst. at the Academy of Music, in that city, in the presence of an appreciative and enthusiastic medium-sized audience. He appeared again at a matinee on the 18th. A well-trained orchestra, under the direction of Mr. B. J. Lang of Boston, assisted him.

THE HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY of Philadelphia gave the first concert of their twenty-first season on the 17th inst. at Horticultural Hall in that city. Mr. F. T. S. Darley was the director, and the soloists were Mme. Carrie Brooks Gulager, Mrs. A. H. Darling and Mrs. G. T. R. Knorr and James A. Connor.

THE PEAKE FAMILY are booked for Dec. 23, 24 and 25 at Dallas, Texas.

THE PRESS CLUB of Philadelphia will give a grand vocal and instrumental concert at Concert Hall on Jan. 25. The proceeds will be devoted to receiving visiting journalists during the Centennial season.

FRANK Q. SWAZEY, a young pianist of Boston, Mass., gave a concert in that city Dec. 7, for the benefit of the Berkeley-street Sabbath-school, which proved both successful and interesting. A number of well known artists in Boston musical circles, including Mrs. F. P. Whitney, soprano; Miss Emma Hathaway, contralto; Messrs. Allen W. Swan, organist; Herbert Harris, pianist; and the Beethoven Choral Union Quartet, assisted in the programme, comprising numbers from the best composers. The Boston press in speaking of the entertainment are particularly commendatory in their notices of the interpretation given to selections from Chopin, Greig, and Mendelssohn by young Swazey, to whom—from his pianoforte recitals, especially of Chopin's "Grand Polonaise," A major, and "Nocturne" No. 8, and Greig's "Humoresken"—they have ascribed the position of a pianist of marked ability.

ROSIN, violin and banjo strings, music, etc., can be obtained at Roe Stephens' music depot, advertised elsewhere.

PROF. NICK VOLLMANN advertises that he can furnish a brass band and orchestra for the coming season to any responsible circus company, or procure musicians for band-leaders.

A CIRCULAR of interest to authors and contributors to popular literature can be obtained of Henry Heineman, secretary of the American Authors' Union, by applying as per card.

ANOTHER MUSICAL PRODIGY has been found, whom we consider worthy of a notice, wrote our Canton, O., correspondent on Dec. 15, continuing: "In this case the wonder is an idiotic youth, fifteen or sixteen years of age, without the slightest culture, and seemingly wholly without a mind to cultivate. We saw this lad recently, but was unable to communicate with him, owing to his inability to comprehend anything we said. However, a companion made him understand that we desired to hear him execute a selection upon a dulcimer which he had, and immediately he seemed all animation, and proceeded to perform several sweet Scotch airs in a manner that was faultless, and without missing a note. He afterwards played other selections, more difficult, without a distinguishable error. One who has known him for years informed us that, after the manner of Blind Tom, his aptness at catching unknown airs is remarkable. Brought up as he has been, in the coal mines near Massillon, O., with no opportunities for culture, and, in fact, with no more intellect than an infant, he is worthy of more than a passing notice. He seems to regard every accent and every point in time and harmony, and altogether is one of those rare prodigies whose minds are wrought up to the beauty of humanity by the power of music, when all else avails nothing."

THE BERGER FAMILY and Sol. S. Russell continue to play with success in the Southern cities. At Baltimore, on Jan. 10, they will be supported by several more young lady violinists and cornet performers. The following press notices speak highly of the company:

THE BERGER TROUPE—A TRIUMPH.—The audience that welcomed the Berger Troupe at the theatre last evening was one of the largest and most fashionable we have seen this season. The character of the audience was specially notable, as we observed many of our citizens who are not regular habitues of places of amusement, but who were tempted forth by the promise of a rare, chaste and most charming entertainment, and well were they repaid. On every side were heard expressions of commendation, and frequent applause attested their infinite satisfaction. The performance was varied, and was one of the most entertaining we have had the pleasure of attending in many years. It was a perfect triumph of real merit and genuine talent, and added to the favor which those who have seen them before entertained for them. Their elaborate and elegant wardrobes happily harmonized with the surroundings of the stage, and their delightful music, which filled the building, was truly a rich treat.—*Savannah News.*

THE BERGER FAMILY AND SOL S. RUSSELL opened their engagement at the Academy last night to a large and cultivated audience. The entertainment was made up of choice music, genuine humor, and lively character acting. Such a happy faculty of making people laugh, whether they wish it or not, was probably never before developed in any one man as in Sol Smith Russell. The musical part of the entertainment consisted of performances upon almost every known instrument, from a piccolo to a bassoon, and from the silver bells to the violoncello. All the leading features of the programme were vociferously encored, and at the fall of the curtain on the finale by the cornet band (most of the performers were of the fairer sex) the applause was long and loud. To-night we are promised a change of programme.—*News and Courier,* Charleston, S. C.

VARIETY HALLS.

CLIPPER ALMANAC.—Our patrons will please bear in mind that the forms for THE CLIPPER ALMANAC for 1876 will be closed Dec. 27, and advertisements should be sent in as early as possible. For terms, etc., see notice in our business department.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, No. 2, Philadelphia, before Judges Mitchell and Hare, in the case of Henry W. Kanaga and Jacob Peters against Joseph M. Mortimer, an application was made December 14 by the plaintiffs for the appointment of a receiver, to take full and complete control of the financial management of the Grand Central Variety Theatre, in that city. The plaintiffs each held a fourth interest, and the defendant a half interest in the theatre management, the respective parties in copartnership having obtained a lease of the premises expiring Dec. 31, 1876. The application was based on the allegation that "the defendant misappropriated funds of the firm." It was stated that the expenses of the establishment were about $2,000 per week, and that last year the profits divided amounted to $22,000. After some discussion it was agreed that the theatrical management should remain with the defendant, and the finances be under the control of a receiver to be appointed, and that security in $40,000 should be entered. The plaintiff's counsel on the 15th inst., in pursuance of the arrangement of the previous day, presented to Judges Hare and Mitchell the form of a decree for the appointment of a receiver. Counsel for Mr. Mortimer—the defendant—objected to the decree as giving the receiver too much power, to the disadvantage of Mr. Mortimer and business of the firm; but was willing that a receiver should be appointed with limited powers, or was willing that the Court should dissolve the partnership. He further averred that the whole trouble grew out of a personal difference between one of the plaintiffs and the defendant, which originated in an objection on the part of the said plaintiff to the defendant permitting certain female performers appearing in a certain act. The Court held the order for consideration, and reserved their opinion as to any modification or changes, believing, under the circumstances, a receiver should be appointed.

THE ATTENDANCE at the Theatre Comique, St Louis, Mo., has been very large, wrote our correspondent on Dec. 17, continuing: "The new people Dec. 13 were Walter Bray, Fernando Fleury, the Hawley Brothers, Theodore Loyal and the Langlois Brothers. Theo. Loyal made his first appearance under difficulties, his platform being rather insecurely put up; but after the first night nothing occurred to mar his performances, which are nicely done. The Langlois Brothers are most expert jugglers. The Hawley Brothers were hardly up to the standard. Fernando Fleury is a character change-artist of merit. Walter Bray, an old favorite, was warmly received. Celia Beltram and the Hawley Brothers close Dec. 18, the former for Indianapolis, and the latter for Looney's, this city. Announcements 19: Delehanty and Cummings, Adams and Ransom, Albert Liston, and Andy and Annie Hughes..... Johnny Clarke made his reappearance at Looney's on Dec. 12, and met with a hearty welcome. Hughey and Ollie McNany closed. Billy Hasson has retired, and gives all his time to his new venture—hotel-keeping. Lizzie Harmon, Nellie Saroney and the Hawley Bros. open 19. Manager Jack Looney is confined to his room, having accidentally shot himself in the leg. Wound not very serious."

THE FIRST WEEK of the reopened Olympic, Troy, N. Y., ending Dec. 18, was characterized by good business. The company consisted of Ad. Weaver and son, Joe Buckley, the Clark Brothers, G. Brooks Clark, Fanny Leslie, Anita Pearl, Sheehan and Jones, Iferd Sisters, Lulu Richmond, Mollie Phelps, and J. K. Buckley. Belle Iferd was incapacitated by sickness after the second night, and J. K. Buckley from "other causes." The Clark Brothers are clever Dutchists, and Sheehan and Jones promising Irishmen. Two Troy boys, titled the Rivolti Brothers, did a neat trapeze act on several nights. There quit 18 Weaver and son, the Clark Brothers, and J. K. Buckley, to New York; Sheehan and Jones, to Providence. To arrive 20: Larry Powers, boxer, who will contest with Paddy Ryan, a West Troy glovist, in "Tom and Jerry," Gorman and Romer, Hattie Russell, Alice Davenport, and two more Trojan blossoms—Dewan and Daley—Irish specialists. Quilter and Goldrich, idle a fortnight by reason of a Boston misdeal, open in Albany 20. Letter of Dec. 10.

AT THE CENTRAL THEATRE, Baltimore, Md., the attraction during the past week was W. H. Langdon in "Wrestling Joe," which proved very successful. The support was by members of the stock company. Harrington and McGlone, song-and-dance artists, were the only additions to the variety corps. The departures Dec. 18 were Irwin Thomas and Ella Mayo, to Philadelphia; Mollie Wilson and Annie Hall, Washington; Billy Hart, Brooklyn; W. H. Langdon, Wm. De Vere and Frank Howe. For Dec. 20 S. K. Chester, Henry P. Page, Polly Daly, the Poole Brothers, Fannie Prestige, Chas. E. Ellis, Ned West, B. S. Hodges and Minnie Jackson are underlined. ....R. M. Reid will open the Maryland Institute on the afternoon of Dec. 25 with the spectacular pantomime of "The Seven Dwarfs," to continue seven nights and two matinees...... The new people at the Odeon on Dec. 6 who were not mentioned in my last were George Derious, Lizzie Derious, Fanny Davenport, Goldie and Barry and Harry Woodson. Louisa Montague opened Dec. 13. The departures Dec. 18 were George and Lizzie Derious, to Fox's, Philadelphia; Mons. Ventini, Mlle. Zulelia and E. H. Trainor. Letter of Dec. 19.

BUSINESS at Smith's Opera-house, Grand Rapids, Mich., continues good. The new faces Dec. 13 were Ella Esmond and Archie White in songs-and-dances, Kitty Love and sisters in duets and jig. Miss Maud Shepard closed after her first night. Ed. Chrissie has assumed the stage-management. Gilday and Gineven, the Robinson Family, and Minnie Rainforth are announced for Dec. 20.

THE GRAND CENTRAL, Philadelphia, was well attended during the week ending Dec. 18, the principal features of the programme being the clever acrobatic feats of the La Rue Family, the serio-comic vocalism of Miss Lucy Adams and Guy Linton, old favorites at this establishment, the character sketches of Western and Walling, and Milton Noble's excellent acting as Jim Bludsoe in the drama of that title. Billy Pastor, A. W. Sawyer and W. Henry Rice closed on the 18th inst. Ernest and Gerard Byne, Joe A. Gulick, Japanese Tommy, and Leopold, Lauretta and Mathews commence at this establishment Dec. 20.

AT ENOCHS' VARIETIES, Philadelphia, the new appearances last week were the Burton Brothers in a clever trapeze act, and the Zanfretta Troupe in "Robert Macaire," Alexander Zanfretta giving therein his inimitable personation of Jacques Strop. The singing of Ione Lang, Minnie Lee and Clara Moore was also pleasing. The Zanfretta Troupe and the Burton Brothers closed Dec. 18. Charles Miron commences Dec. 20, appearing as Bill Sykes in the concluding drama of "Oliver Twist."

PROF. J. WHIFFENBACH, in his drum act, was the only new face at Miller's Winter Garden, Philadelphia, during the week ending Dec. 18; Messrs. Ventini and Trainor and Mlle. Zulelia closing a successful engagement on the latter date. The Monzert Sisters and Sarony open Dec. 20.

THE CAPITOL THEATRE, Albany, N. Y., is to be opened under the name of the Adelphi, Dec. 20, with John J. Kirkpatrick, manager, H. Freeberthyser leader of the orchestra, and Chas. L. Davis as stage-manager. The announced company includes Chas. L. Davis, Eurardo, Billy Heywood, Tommy and Johnny Cooper, Billy Ray, Maggie Ray, Lulu Mortimer, Rena Florence, Lew and Pauline Parker.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE, corner of Tenth and Callowhill streets, Philadelphia, is approaching completion, being roofed in last week. It will be one of the finest fitted-up places of amusement in the country, and, under the management of W. J. Gilmore, ought to be successful, especially as the location thereof is good. It will be opened to the public about the middle of January, with a strong company of variety artists under the stage management of Harry W. Williams.

EFFIE WEBER, serio-comic vocalist, can be engaged through her agents, Lane & Weaver, who advertise her first open date as Feb. 1.

LOORENIA, conjurer, in his magical entertainment, introducing a performing cat, learned birds, white mice, etc., can be engaged by addressing as per advertisement.

AT SHELBY'S ADELPHI, Buffalo, the past week's business has kept up fair, in spite of bad weather. The new faces 13 were the Stuart Sisters in duets and clog dances, Manchester and Jennings in songs-and-dances, the Victorellis, athletes, and Miss Gabriella McKean and Frank G. Campbell in principal roles of their version of "Lady Audley's Secret." Bobby Scott and Patti Rosa also returned. Sheppard and Whitney, announced to appear 13, canceled their engagement and went to Cincinnati. New faces 20: Mlle. De Granville, Jennie Sothern, Blanche Lelwyn, Venus and Adonis, and Ben Gilfoil. Closures 18: The Stuart Sisters, to Syracuse; Bobby Scott, to Chicago; Minnie Rainforth, to Grand Rapids, Mich. The Victorellis lay off a week, and Gabriella McKean and F. G. Campbell have no engagements. ......At the Canterbury Varieties the business was extremely light, notwithstanding admission was made free. Advices of Dec. 18.

THE ARRIVALS at the Theatre Comique, Cleveland, O., Dec. 13, were the Carter Brothers and Murphy and Shannon. Business good. Departures 18: Laura Flint, to Buffalo, N. Y.; May Marshal, to Toledo, O. Murphy and Shannon remain idle one week, and then open in Toledo, O. Den Thompson is announced for 20.

THE WINNETTS, specialty and sketch artists, can be addressed care of this office.

NOTWITHSTANDING counter-attractions, the Theatre Comique, Richmond, Va., did a good business the past week. Kitty Sanford began Dec. 13. The departures 18 were Jerome and Campbell, W. V. Malmburg, Emma Gertrude and Harry Fenner. To begin 20 are Nattie Sarona, Maggie Pearl, and the Putnam Brothers—Charley and Frank......At the Grand Central business remains the same. Jessie Howard was the only new face the past week, and she took well. Advices of Dec. 19.

AT THEATRE COMIQUE, Providence, R. I., the new faces the past week were Lulu Delmay and Lew Spencer, both of whom met with favor. The Whittinghams and Weslyn and Casey closed 18. Business for the week good.

AT THE THEATRE COMIQUE, Toledo, O., the new arrivals Dec. 13 were Charles L. Heward, who does a fine act of legerdemain, Glenn and Williams in songs-and-dances, Miss Jennie Leslie in comic songs, and Den Thompson. Closing 18: The Robinson Family, Mr. and Mrs. Haffner, Williams and Glenn and Den Thompson. To open 20: Oscar and Katie Shindle and Leon Whittony......The Nunn Family went to South Bend, Ind., to play at the new place there. Gilday and Gineven are in town.

THE WESTON SISTERS, Griffin and Rice, and Miss Ella Davis were the new people seen at Trimble's Varieties Theatre, Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 13. The performances of the Weston Sisters were received with much favor. Their fine costumes, neat dancing, clever banjoisms, and songs with local hits were fully appreciated. Griffin and Rice are song-and-dance men of considerable merit. Miss Ella Davis is young, and perhaps in time she may achieve success as a vocalist. Business not so good as during the previous week. The announcements for 20 are Billy Pastor, Harry Kennedy, the Snow Brothers, Miss Emily Prior, and Geo. W. Herman. Advices of Dec. 17.

MLLE. VENTUROLI, once well and favorably known throughout the country as a premiere danseuse, is now in very destitute circumstances, at her residence on Hunter street, above Tenth, Philadelphia. She has been prevented from following her profession for the past three years by reason of a stroke of paralysis, which almost deprived her of the use of her limbs. The attention of the variety profession is respectfully called to this deserving object of their charity, and all contributions that may be sent to the care of Alfred H. Wright, *Philadelphia Sunday Mercury,* will be duly and thankfully acknowledged on behalf of Mlle. Venturoli.

THE ADELPHIA THEATRE, Toledo, O., will be re-opened Dec. 27, and talent is advertised for.

BILLY BANFORD, end-man, bone-soloist, etc., whose address find elsewhere, can be engaged.

SONG-AND-DANCE and serio-comic lady vocalists are wanted at Gilmore's Garden Theatre, Rochester, N. Y. See card.

H. VICTORELLI and Little Eldon, gymnasts, and Annie Braddon, vocalist, can be addressed care of this office by parties desiring to engage them after March 6.

THE GRAND CENTRAL ASSOCIATION, composed of the attaches of the Grand Central Theatre, Philadelphia, Pa., are to give a ball in Musical Fund Hall, Dec. 28.

AT THE ODEON, Newark, N. J., the new appearances Dec. 13 were Emerson and Clark and Murphy and Mack, the former meeting with much favor in their songs-and-dances, and Murphy and Mack giving satisfaction in their sketches. Closures 18: Emerson and Clark and Collins and Martha Wren, all to Providence, R. I. Announced for 20: Charles and Carrie Austin, Mlle. Zittella, and Edna Markley........ At the Metropolitan the fresh faces were Pettit and White, the Gaylord Brothers, and Conners and Kelly. The Ravel-Hernandez Troupe, owing to misunderstanding between themselves and the management, did not open as announced; Frank Leathewood ditto. The Gaylord Brothers, in their several specialties of slack wire, trapeze and contortion acts, were seen to good advantage. Connors and Kelly gave satisfaction in their songs-and-dances, as did Pettit and White, who are great favorites. Departures 18: Pettit and White, to join Skiff & Gaylord's Minstrels; Adelaide Stuart, to New York; and Conners and Kelly, to Pittsburg. Booked for 20: Lottie Rainforth; the Twin Sisters Vaidis, Charles Arizona, Lulu Richmond, Dollie May, and the Gorman Brothers. Business good at both places. Letter of Dec. 18.

THE THEATRE COMIQUE, Washington, D. C., did a good business the past week. "The Ice Witch" was produced in fine style under the supervision of Leon De Leon, with the characters by the company; Alf McDowell as Magnus Snoro, Geo. H. Waite as Gruthioff, Ella Wiegle as Hecla, and Bella Clifton as Minna being the only ones having speaking parts worthy of mention. The Amazonian March, headed by Minnie Jackson, was excellent. The attractions introduced during the progress of the play were the evolutions of the Associated Managers' Ballet Troupe, Chinese dance by Carrie Bentley, Dutch character songs by Alonzo Schwartz, and the comicalities of Harry Kennedy, ventriloquist. The departures Dec. 18 were the ballet troupe to Philadelphia, Alonzo Schwartz, Harry Kennedy, Carrie Bentley, Minnie Jackson and A. Martinetti. The announcements for 20 are Julian Kent, Barney McNulty, Mollie Wilson, Seamon and Somers, and George Donelson. Letter of Dec. 19.

THE HARRIGAN & HART COMBINATION perform this week at the Opera-house, Detroit, Mich., Toledo, O., Dec. 27, Fort Wayne, Ind., 28, Logansport 29, Lafayette 30, Danville, Ill., 31, Decatur Jan. 1, 1876.

FREDERICKS AND MARSHALL, double song-and-dance artists, etc., advertise for engagements with traveling companies.

THE LA RUE FAMILY, now engaged at the Grand Central Theatre, Philadelphia, are very favorably noticed by *The Philadelphia Daily Item,* an extract from which, with the agent's address, is published in another column.

VARIETY PERFORMERS are wanted, to travel with Van Wormer's Variety Show. See card.

THE FRONT-STREET THEATRE, Baltimore, Md., which is known to professionals as a commodious and well-appointed house, can be rented by first-class minstrel troupes or combinations on liberal terms, through Kernan Bros. & Co., who advertise.

SPECIALTY ARTISTS and dramatic stars desiring engagements at the New Central Theatre, Baltimore, Md., are referred to Kernan Bros. & Co.'s card in our business department.

THE NEW PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn, L. I., the past week resumed the presentation of entertainments entirely devoted to variety and vaudeville features, without any admixture of dramatic stars whatsoever. The business has been large and highly remunerative, demonstrating the fact that this class of amusements is more calculated to please the Park patrons than that which the management has sought to introduce during the last five or six weeks. The programme opened with the farce "A Night of Terror," by Messrs. Edeson, Charles, Garnett, and Laura Le Claire; followed by Lizzie Kelsey in vocalism, McKee and Rogers in their specialties, concluding with "The Flip-Flap Fandango;" the Freeman Sisters in a duet, "Out in the Cold," and for an encore "On Board the Mary Jane;" Mlle. D'Atalie in her remarkable exhibition of muscular strength, assisted by her two pupils Buonaparte and Agricole, one of whom, for a child, executed some very clever balancing feats; the French Twin Sisters in songs-and-dances; King Sarbro in his well-known rope-walking act, finishing with the slide upon one foot upon a cord stretched from the stage to upper circle; Sam Devere in black face and banjo-solos; the whole concluding with the drama of "Out in the Snow, or the Outbreak at Sing Sing," introducing Miss Annie Ward Tiffany as Jane Fryer, supported by the stock company. Arrivals Dec. 20, John Jolly Nash and Wm. Henry Rice.

CINCINNATI VARIETY NEWS to Dec. 17 is sent as appended by our correspondent: "At the National Theatre Comique the new appearances Dec. 13 were Charlotte M. Stanley, the Perry Brothers, and Lydia Rosa. The latter vocalized fairly, and the Perry Brothers took well in songs-and-dances. 'Crime, or the Car-hook Murder,' was acted, with Charlotte M. Stanley as Madge. Departures 18: Charlotte M. Stanley, Niles and Evans, for Louisville; Charles T. Ellis, for Baltimore; and Jacob Riley. New people on the 20th: Giovanni and Rossetti Brothers, Miss Wilson and George France. Business has been good......At the Grand Central Theatre the new appearances were Baby Ardine, Sally Mason, Robert V. Ferguson, and Harry Morris. Baby Ardine sang change songs in male costume quite acceptably. Ferguson in 'The Lunatics,' Sally Mason in vocalisms, and Harry Morris in Dutch specialties, have all lately played here with success. The attendance has averaged fairly. Departures 18: Annie Clark, Annie De Lorme, and Edwin Failing. Underlined for 20: John W. Davis and Miss M. A. Fox......At the Adelphi are M. A. Griffin, Billy Reed, Harry Leary, Marcus May, Nellie Holloway, Mlle. Leonora, and Kitty Osmond. Biz fair......No change at the Eldorado."

CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT was noticed in the attendance at the Vaudeville Theatre, Louisville, Ky., the past week, an increase in talent being the magnet. The new features Dec. 13 were J. H. Larkins and Miss Carrie Armstrong, who in German specialties made a great hit. Their songs-and-dances are new, and are done in excellent style. Baker and Doyle, negro comedians and song-and-dance men, were several times recalled. Tim Morris, old man and eccentric comedian, received much applause. Ella Heflin, an old favorite, was recalled several times. Annie Braddon departs 18 for Indianapolis; also J. H. and Maggie McBride, for Chicago. The Kine Brothers, Jenny Wade and Clara Slidell open 20. Letter of Dec. 16.

OUR DETROIT correspondent states "that the business of the Theatre Comique is immense. On the 13th Hall and Thompson exhibited their ability in acrobatic songs-and-dances, creating a furor; Willie Wood gave a pleasing musical melange with a guitar and harmonica; Fannie Wood reappeared as Kate McCanon, captivating, as usual, the audience. It is astonishing how great a favorite she is, and how well she wears with the habitues of this house. Closing 18: Adams and Ransom, to St. Louis; Harry Gardner, Marie Rochelle, Cincinnati; Georgie May, Little Florence, Cleveland; Emma Bretta, Philadelphia; Clara Sidelle, Louisville, Ky. Coming 20: Mons. Joseph, Angie Schott, Billy Mendel, Flora Stanley, and Abb Lee."

FEMALE PERFORMERS are wanted in every branch of the business at Harry Hill's Theatre. See card.

PROF. NEIL SMITH and dogs are now performing at the Arcade Theatre, Jersey City, N. J. He notifies managers that his riding-dog "Liberty" will be ready for dates during the tenting season. See card.

AT CARROLLTON VARIETIES, Fall River, Mass., business is good. Departures 18: Homer and Holly, to New York; Crumley and Forrest, unknown. Announced for 20: Conway and Mack and the McAvoys—Fred and Annie.

J. L. DAVIS, Miss Nell West, and their school of educated dogs, now at the Adelphi, Chicago, open at Theatre Comique, St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 2, and Trimble's Varieties, Pittsburg, Jan. 17.

HARRIGAN AND HART commence a week's season at the Detroit, Mich., Opera-house Dec. 20, Jennie Palmer following on the 27th for one week.

TALENT is wanted at the Theatre Comique, Peoria, Ill. Ladies especially are advertised for by Mme. Roberts.

JOHN ALEXANDER, banjoist and comedian, and Little Lottie, serio-comic vocalist, song-and-dance lady, etc., publish a card from Manager Hippler of the Mobile (Ala.) Varieties, recommending them as reliable and satisfactory performers. They can be addressed care of this office.

FIRST-CLASS variety artists are wanted at the Third-avenue Theatre, this city. See Manager Winship's card.

BILLY HALLE, clog, jig and reel dancer, can be addressed as per card for engagements.

THE HEYWOOD BROS.' Combination shows in Topeka, Kans., Dec. 21, Atchison 22, Leavenworth 23, St. Joseph, Mo., 24, Nebraska City, Neb., 25, Council Bluffs, Ia., 26, Omaha, Neb., 28. Performers in all branches of the variety and minstrel business desiring engagements for next season are referred to Manager Heywood's card in this issue.

CONCERNING the Front-street Theatre, Baltimore, Md., we have received another letter from R. M. Reed, reiterating his former statements; but we prefer not to discuss the matter further.

FRED D. HARRIS and Fannie Florence, musical sketches and specialty artists, can be addressed care of this office.

FRED SHARPLEY of Sharpley and Fields, musical specialty artists, is slowly recovering from his late severe illness, but it is doubtful whether he will ever be able to appear again on the stage.

MISS IONE LANG, a popular serio-comic vocalist, was accidentally thrown out of a carriage while out riding on the 9th inst., in Philadelphia, and sustained a slight injury, she making her reappearance at Enochs' Varieties, in that city, on the 13th inst.

JOHN CARLE was the only fresh appearance at the Carrollton Varieties, Fall River, Mass., the past week.

THE FRESH ATTRACTIONS at the Adelphi, Portland, Me., Dec. 13 were the Henri Family; Eloise Allen, a pleasing vocalist; James McDonald, pedestal skate-dancer; and Baby McDonald, child artiste. Prof Carlisle and son were unable to appear, owing to the illness of the former. Frank A. Gibbons, aerial gymnast, was added to the company Dec. 16. Departures Dec. 18: Carrie Lavarnie, Huber and Gledden, Conway and Mack, Hank White and the Henri Family. Dec. 22, Tom Murray and Mlle. Henrietta commence. Announcements for 20: the Bartow Brothers, Fred Carroll, Sheehan and Jones, Thomas Jackson, Cora Leigh, and Conway and Kerrigan.

NEGRO MINSTRELSY.

SIX ETHIOPIAN FARCES have just been issued, and are announced in our advertising department by R. M. De Witt.

TWO END-MEN, one cornet-player, a violinist and an advance agent, are wanted for a newly-organized minstrel company. See Prof. Phil Lor Amor's card.

HOOLEY'S MINSTRELS, Brooklyn, L. I., has witnessed the past week the addition to its number of the names of several strong and old-time favorites, among whom may be found Cool White, J. A. Hermann and J. W. McAndrews. With the improvement lately made in the first-part, noticed in these columns a few weeks ago, this company may now be considered to be established upon an artistic basis. Business satisfactory, and likely to improve during the Christmas holidays.

MME. RENTZ'S FEMALE MINSTRELS are to show in Jacksonville, Ill., Dec. 20, Springfield 21, Decatur 22, Centralia 23, Cairo 24, Paducah, Ky., 25.

CARNCROSS & DIXEY'S MINSTRELS, Philadelphia, the 20th inst., will present the spectacular burlesque of "Cinderella."

SIMMONS, SLOCUM & SWEATNAM'S MINSTRELS, Philadelphia, offer the pantomime of "Nix the Demon Dwarf" as the holiday attraction.

S. S. SANFORD'S MINSTRELS opened for one week at the Fifth-avenue Comedy Theatre, Pittsburg, Pa., on Dec. 13, to a moderate attendance. The performances consisted of a first-part, in which a number of old-time songs were given, and an olio, concluding with Sanford's version of "Happy Uncle Tom's Cabin, or Real Life in Old Kentuck." The programme was defective in variety, and the acts presented generally lacked that vim and unction which are required to make minstrelsy enjoyable. Patronage slim all the week. On Dec. 20 a new dramatic company is announced to appear at this house, when "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will be produced, with Sam Sanford as Uncle Tom......Haverly's Minstrels play for one week at Library Hall, commencing on Dec. 20. Advices of Dec. 17.

CALLENDER'S GEORGIA MINSTRELS commence a season of one week at Robinson's Opera-house, Cincinnati, Dec. 20.

A COLLAPSE.—A party which has been showing through Ohio under the name of Happy J. Webb's Minstrels gave up the struggle at Ravenna, O., Dec. 10, owing to financial difficulties.

T. M. HENGLER is now traveling with Bryant's Minstrels, appearing in an entertainment entitled "The Merry Minstrel," in which he introduces five distinct character impersonations.

A PARTNER is wanted in the minstrel business by Henry Edwards, who advertises for a new beginner.

DUPREZ & BENEDICT'S MINSTRELS were at Omaha, Neb., Dec. 13, 14, Council Bluffs, Ia., 15, Sioux City 16, 18, and Yankton, Dakota, 17. We are informed that they are doing an excellent business, and the report is confirmed by the following press notices:

Duprez & Benedict's Minstrels were at Corinthian Hall last night, and permit us to remark, as a prelude, that this is the boss minstrel party of the world, so recognized by all who have ever seen them, both in and out of the profession, and such was the unanimous verdict of the grand audience that attended them last night. They have inaugurated a new era in minstrelsy, and such a vast improvement over the monotonous old styles that we want more of it. Everything was new—new plays, new dances, new songs, new features everywhere, and the entire audience were held spellbound the whole evening. In short, it was the best minstrel show that was ever given in Atchison, and we are in earnest when we say so.—*Daily Champion,* Atchison, Kas., Dec. 4.

DUPREZ & BENEDICT'S MINSTRELS.—The Opera-house was crowded last evening almost to suffocation by those anxious to see the performance of this famous troupe. No one was disappointed, as the entire entertainment was by great odds the best the city has ever seen. Duprez & Benedict's Minstrels are sure to draw crowded houses wherever they go; and they deserve success, for their artists are by far the best traveling.—*Daily Times,* Leavenworth, Kas., Dec. 6.

CIRCUSES.

DEATH OF AN OLD PROFESSIONAL.—Charles E. Sherwood died from the effects of a lingering disease, at his residence, at Forty-fourth and Butler streets, Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 12, at the age of 52 years. He was born July 22, 1823, at the corner of Broadway and Canal street, in this city, where he made his first appearance in public at Vauxhall Garden in the Bowery, as Cupid, under the management of P. T. Barnum. He then appeared at the Bowery Theatre, under the direction of Neil Jamison, a son of Sandy Jamison, now in his 80th year, and the dramatic leader of the orchestra at the Euclid-avenue Opera-house, Cleveland, O. At that time Master Sherwood was known as Master Charles Champion. On July 5, 1841, he started on a tour with a dramatic company through New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He next joined S. Nicholl's Circus in Danville, and shortly afterwards excelled in vaulting. Then he was bound as an apprentice to H. P. Madigan. He next traveled with Harry Rockwell's Circus, in 1846, as a pupil of Hiram Franklin. He built the Athenæum, at the corner of Sixth and Vine streets, Cincinnati, O., the site of which is now occupied by Wood's Theatre. In 1849 he owned a half interest with Franklin of the steamboat Planet, one-quarter interest in a vessel managed by Banks in South America, and an interest in two circuses traveling in the West. He was one of the first to turn a double somersault in America. He was the original "Pete Jenkins," having performed that act for the first time in 1851, aided by Capt. De Camp and the late Joe Pentland, clown. He continued in the circus business as a general performer until 1868, when he quit, and went into speculative business in Wall street, in this city. He invested the most of his means in Pittsburg, where he has resided for some years. Our correspondent in that city informs us that he "believes his remains were taken to New York City for burial."

MLLE. RUSSELLIE and John Murtz desire to negotiate with managers for the tenting season. They advertise their specialties as trapeze, horizontal bar, tumbling, etc., with lady in song-and-dances in concert.

THE NATIONAL CIRCUS AND MUSEUM is announced to take the road about May 1, 1876, under the management of O. P. Hart, who advertises that he would like to hear from the people who traveled with the Keystone party in 1873. The privileges connected with the show are to let, and talent of all kinds is wanted.

JACK WHITE, late of Queen's Circus, is requested to communicate with E. D. Colvin, who advertises his address.

TALENT is wanted after Jan. 1, 1876, for the United States Circus. The managers will be in New York about Jan. 15, and can be addressed care of this office. They particularly want to hear from De Haven's balloon men.

ELIZA KENYON, principal rider, and Chas. Kenyon, ringmaster, are open for engagements for the coming tenting season. See card.

WILLIAM DUTTON, equestrian, can be addressed care of this office.

JOEL S. DAVIDSON, clown and vocalist, can be engaged for the tenting season of 1876. See card.

CHAS. H. DAY, press and contracting agent, for the past four years with John H. Murray's Circus, inserts his address in another column.

SELLS BROTHERS' CIRCUS AND MENAGERIE is in Winter quarters at Chattanooga, Tenn.

MALE AND FEMALE ARTISTS of all kinds are wanted for the Great International Allied Shows. Riders, gymnasts, jugglers, contortionists, etc., can find engagements by applying to Manager Bailey, as per card.

TEN GOOD BILLPOSTERS are wanted for Cooper, Bailey & Co.'s International Shows. See advertisement.

MARTINHO LOWANDE, equestrian, and his sons can be engaged for the season of 1876, with their horses. Address as per advertisement.

D. A. SEAL the jester, now with Hengler's Circus in England, has been most favorably noticed by the press, and his performances have been thoroughly appreciated, judging by the following extract:

At Hengler's Cirque another valuable addition to the long list of artists has been made this week, namely, our old friend the jester, Mr. David Seal. It is now some eight years since Mr. Seal left Hull, having at that time gained great favor at Mr Newsome's then popular circus. Since that time Mr. Seal has visited the chief cities of Europe and traversed the entire continent of America. Travel has improved his great natural gifts, and his witticisms were most happy and pointed, especially the localisms. His reception was all that any artist could desire. There was yet another pleasing first appearance in the person of Mlle. Lizzie Keys, whose wonderful flights through large drums and over various objects were indeed astounding.—*Hull Daily Telegraph,* Nov. 20.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MOUNT CLEMENS OPERA-HOUSE, Mount Clemens, Mich., completed recently, is advertised as being open for rental. It has a seating capacity of one thousand.

MUSIC HALL, Erie, Pa., is recommended to traveling parties by Chas. Callendar of the Georgia Minstrels, in a card in this issue, in which full particulars are given as to the seating capacity, scenic resources, etc.

A LOT of portable theatrical scenery, which is described in a card in this issue, is offered for sale by T. Bingham.

TALLY'S OPERA-HOUSE, Shreveport, La., can be rented from Ricou & Grouchy, lessees, who advertise.

MINIATURE CLOG-SHOES, a mechanical contrivance, intended as an instructor for clog-dancers, can be found advertised in another column.

TOOTLE'S OPERA-HOUSE, St. Joseph, Mo., is open for rental to traveling companies. Open dates can be secured as per card.

AT THE VAN HORN HOUSE, Chattanooga, Tenn., accommodations are offered to professionals visiting that city. See advertisement.

E. B. HOUGH, scenic-artist, advertises that he can furnish theatrical scenery and decoration, etc.

RIDDELL HALL, Canisteo, Steuben Co., N. Y., can be secured for entertainments by applying to George Riddell & Co., who advertise. The seating capacity is 500.

SKETCHES, songs, plays, etc., are written to order by I. Davean, who advertises.

A TROUPE of ten Indians can be engaged for the Winter, and also for next tenting season, by applying to Wilson Pierce, as per card.

WOODROFFE & NICHOLS' Original Troupe of Bohemian Glassblowers is to commence a series of exhibitions in Hartford, Ct., Dec. 20.

F. WHITNEY, ventriloquist, assisted by Miss Nellie Atherton, vocalist, and B. Dillon, pianist, is to perform in Windsor, Ill., Dec. 20, 21, Mattoon 22, 23.

SIGNOR BOSCO, wizard, is to show in South Bend, Ind., Dec. 20, 21, 22, Laporte 23, 24, 25.

MERCHANTS' HOTEL, Louisville, Ky., offers special rates to the profession making it their stopping-place while in that city. Messrs. Ray & Evans, proprietors, publish a card from G. V. Ryder, Fifth-avenue Combination, recommending the house to the profession.

ALF. BURNETT and troupe were at Greenville, O., Dec. 13, 14, Richmond, Ind., 15, and are to perform at Glasgow, Ky., 20, Bowling Green 21, Russellville 22, Hopkinsville 23. L. Percy Williams is business-manager.

A HUMOROUS Irish song-book entitled "The Tim Flaherty" Songster can be obtained of the publisher R. M. De Witt, who advertises.

THE SECOND REGIMENT of Philadelphia will hold a Centennial Bazar at their armory, Race street, below Sixth, in that city, commencing Dec. 20 and ending Dec. 29.

REV. DR. McGLYNN of New York delivered a lecture at St. Mary's Church, Philadelphia, Dec. 12, upon the subject "The Philosophy and the Poetry of the Confessional."

PROF. S. K. MURDOCH, assisted by his pupil, Miss Ida Sternberger, gave readings at the Amateur Drawing-room, Philadelphia, on the 13th inst.

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN, Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, was well patronized during the past week, there being a general desire on the part of the public to see the leopard who held control of the barge Chesapeake on the Delaware for the term of three days, and who in consequence thereof has been nicknamed "Commodore Lawrence."

E. STARKWEATHER, advance agent, advertises that he can be engaged after Jan. 1.

M. B. COWLES, advance agent, has accepted an engagement with Chas. Shay's "Quinquplexal Troupe."

TEN COURT SUITS are offered for sale by Charles MacEvoy. See card.

THEODORE TILTON lectured to a large and fashionable audience at the Opera-house, Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 17, on "The Problem of Life."

MRS. E. CADY STANTON lectured in Dallas, Texas, Dec. 14, to a very large audience.

MME. TILLSON, whose address find in another column, offers her stock of wardrobe for sale at a sacrifice, and her evening dresses and costumes for hire.

A DISSOLVING-VIEW APPARATUS is advertised for sale by J. F. Palme.

HARRY C. DIETZ is requested to send his address to J. M. Hillyar. See advertisement.

ANGELO HALL, Jackson, Miss., can be rented through the proprietor, who states in a card that it is furnished with scenery and will seat six hundred. The State Legislature meets there Jan. 4.

MARTINO is to perform in St. Paul, Minn., one week, commencing Dec. 27.

PROF. HARRINGTON—the veteran ventriloquist and magician of Boston, Mass., now 68 years of age—aided by Dixon E. Watson, character-humorist, is giving exhibitions in New Hampshire.

BRANT'S HALL, Harrisburg, Pa., can be rented through the proprietor, who advertises.

ELLIOTT'S OPERA-HOUSE, Woonsocket, R. I., is open for rental. Communications in regard to open dates, etc., can be addressed to Lysander W. Elliott, as per card.

QUEEN'S ORIENTAL SHOW will be at West Newbury, Mass., Dec. 21, Groveland 22.

MISS MARGARETTA B. MOORE read in Brooklyn, E. D., Dec. 16, and is to recite in Dunkirk 21, Forestville 23.

MATHER'S HALL, Marquette, Mich., can be rented for exhibitions of every kind, through the proprietor, who advertises.

PARTIES having canvas, baggage-wagons and other circus property for sale are requested to address Wm. Tron, as per card.

AT THE CITY HOTEL, New Haven, Ct., show-companies are entertained at reduced rates. See advertisement.

J. BROCK, show-painter, announces that he can furnish every variety of show-paintings at his studio, noticed his card in our business department.

THE GRAND CENTRAL THEATRE, Troy, N. Y., which will seat eight hundred, is advertised to rent. It is furnished with a stage, scenery, etc., all in first-class order.

COL. F. LIENARD'S tableau-diorama, representing "Washington's Review at Yorktown," was exhibited during the past week at the Chestnut-street Rink, Philadelphia, opening Dec. 14.

THE SITE of the Old National Hall, and afterwards of the Olympic Theatre, on Market street, below Thirteenth, Philadelphia, is now occupied by stores.

WAX-FIGURES, also a modeler in wax, are wanted as per card in another column.

THEATRICAL WIGS can be obtained at Jules Magory's address, advertised in this issue.

SHOW-PAINTINGS, panoramas and scenery can be obtained at Tucker Bros.' establishment, advertised in this issue.

AMATEUR.

THE WHEATLEY DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION of Philadelphia, at their regular weekly performances on the 15th inst., produced "Married Life." On the 17th inst. "The Two Orphans" constituted the programme, on the occasion of the benefit of the comedian E. E. Hulfish Jr. The Wheatley will have their annual benefit on the 20th inst., on which occasion "The Grand Duchess" will be given, with Miss Clara De Vere in the title-role. "The Love Knot" will be given on the 22d inst.

A. LANG had a complimentary benefit at the Amateur Drawing-room, Philadelphia, on the 17th inst., when "A Match in the Dark," "The Widow's Victim," and "The Rough Diamond" constituted the programme.

AT THE AMATEUR DRAWING-ROOM, Philadelphia, Samuel F. Taylor had a benefit on the 18th inst., when "Hamlet" was produced, with the beneficiary in the title-role.

THE DAVENPORT CLUB of Cincinnati gave "The Willow Copse" on Dec. 17. Their hall was crowded. ......The Shakespeare Club gave a comedy called "Bought" 14.

FOREIGN SHOW NEWS.

DRAMATIC.

THE FIRST PRESENTATION of Mr. Wills' new historical play, "Buckingham," at the Olympic, and the transplanting of the Parisian spectacle "The White Cat," translated by Henry S. Leigh, to the stage of the Queen's Theatre, constituted the noticeable theatrical events of the week closing Dec. 4 in London, Eng. A lengthy notice of the former will be found upon another page, and of the latter it is only necessary to say that, with costumes, decorations, machinery, etc., brought from the French capitol, it was placed upon the stage in a style of scenic splendor which, with the ballet attractions, insured its success. Miss Rose Massey assumes the principal role......F. C. Burnand has become proprietor of the lease of the Mirror Theatre, and proposes to alter the name thereof to the Royal Duke's Theatre. ......The arrival of the Vokes Family was announced. They are to appear at Drury-lane, commencing on Boxing Night, in the pantomime of "Whittington and his Cat."......The Lydia Thompson troupe were to perform "Blue Beard" at the Crystal Palace Dec. 7......A performance in aid of a testimonial to the memory of the late George Belmore was announced to take place at Drury-lane on the 15th inst......Charles Morton, formerly manager of the Opera Comique, who was adjudicated a bankrupt in August last, on Nov. 20 applied to pass his public examination on accounts showing debts to the amount of £7,704, and assets £20. Registrar Murray allowed the bankrupt to pass.

"CLYTE" is the title of a new melodrama, adapted from the novel bearing the same name, and first acted at the Royal Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Eng., Nov. 29. Miss Henrietta Hodson enacted the part of the heroine.

"ROSE MICHEL" was produced recently at the Stadt Theatre, Vienna, but it failed to hit the popular taste.

"THE TWO ORPHANS" proved a great success at the Carl Theatre, Vienna.

THE POLICE AUTHORITIES in Vienna have found it necessary to issue more stringent measures for the suppression of any organized system of *claque* at the Bergh Theatre.

THE VICTORIA THEATRE, Berlin, Prussia, intends playing "Round the World in Eighty Days" until the 23d of March next year, being the anniversary of its first production. The majority of the commission appointed to award the Schiller prize for the best German play written between 1872-4 have decided not to make any award, not considering any work deserving such distinction.

THE ROYAL THEATRE, Munich, Bavaria, was closed lately for one night, in order to enable the King to enjoy a performance of "The Maid of Orleans" by himself alone. Quaglio, the renowned scenic-artist, had painted the scene of the Cathedral of Rheims expressly for the occasion.

THE HUNGARIAN AUTHOR and politician Maurice Jokai is occupied in writing a drama, "Milton," for Herr Weilenbeck, the talented blind actor, whose performances as a member of the Meiningen company have attracted much attention of late.

RECEIPTS OF PARIS THEATRES.—*The Official Journal* states that, judging from the receipts of the Paris theatres during the first ten months of the present year, the total for 1875 will reach a sum of twenty-five millions of francs. That result is the more significant that in 1868 the amount was only 16,075,000f.; in 1869, 17,775,049f.; in 1870, 9,903,527f.; in 1871, 7,382,924f.; in 1872, 18,748,688f.; in 1873, 20,459,046f.; and 1874, 23,212,430f. And yet directors say that the theatrical art is in a state of decay, and that they can scarcely earn a living. An exception must, however, be made for M. Halanzier, who has received an average of 18,737f. per each performance in 1875, while in 1866 the receipts of the opera averaged only 7,320f., and in 1867 9,543f.

WILLIAM SENNETT died in London Nov. 28, aged 76. He leaves a widow and family, all in the profession.

VARIETY HALLS.

BLONDIN, says a correspondent, performed a thrilling feat, hitherto unattempted even by him, during the recent passage of the steamer Poonah from England to Australia. The "Hero of Niagara" walked along a rope stretched from the main to the mizzen mast, 120 feet long, at a height of sixty feet. The motion of the engine and the swaying of the vessel made this a difficult operation, especially as the rolling at that great height was much more perceptible than on deck. When Blondin descended to receive the congratulations of those who saw him perform this unique feat he was quivering and perspiring from sheer excitement, and his face was deadly pale. He exclaimed: "Well, I've done it. I knew it was to be done, but I have never attempted anything like it before."

JOHN MORRIS the protean artist has been astounding the Parisians with his lightning transformation business.

CIRCUSES.

ALEXANDRINE GRICE, wife of Joseph Thomas Grice of the Circus Salamonsky, Berlin, Prussia, died in that city, after a painful illness, Nov. 28.

THE RIZARELLI BROTHERS were to have opened the Holborn Amphitheatre, London, as a grand cirque Dec. 13. Among the performers engaged is Le Vicomte De Corby, the French horse breaker.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE FOUNDATION STONE of the new National Opera-house, on the Thames embankment, between Charing-cross and Westminster Bridges, London, Eng., was laid on Dec. 16 by the Duke of Edinburgh, appearing as the representative of the Prince of Wales.

AMUSEMENTS.

NOTICE.

THE CLIPPER ALMANAC FOR 1876

WILL BE READY JANUARY 8.

As an advertising medium, THE CLIPPER ALMANAC cannot be surpassed. The statistics and records it contains insure its being preserved for years. The circulation of THE ALMANAC for 1874, and of that for 1875, far exceeded our expectations.

To such of our patrons as desire to avail themselves of its pages to make their business known to one another and to the public, we would suggest that their favors be sent in as early as possible, as NONE CAN BE RECEIVED AFTER DEC. 27.

Advertisements for THE CLIPPER ALMANAC for 1876 will be inserted at the following rates, and on our usual cash terms: For one page, 7½x4½ inches, $40; half a page, $20; quarter of a page, $10; a space of 25x31 ems agate, $5.

TONY PASTOR'S NEW THEATRE. 585 and 587 BROADWAY.
3 MATINEES THIS WEEK. 3
TUESDAY, FRIDAY and CHRISTMAS DAY.
AUGMENTED ATTRACTIONS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
HERNANDEZ-RAVEL PANTOMIME TROUPE.
THE MAGIC HORN. THE MAGIC HORN.
GUS WILLIAMS EVERY NIGHT.
THE WHITTINGHAMS, MASTER NEWMAN, SALLIE ST. CLAIR, HENRI FAMILY, ADA LAURENT.
SAM MARTIN, One-legged Song-and-Dance Artist.
JENNIE MORGAN, SANFORD and WILSON.
JOHN LECLAIR, Antipodean Wonder; and a first-class Company. New Songs. New Acts. Fresh Comedy. Sparkling Burlesques. Dancing as it was and is.
All in a grand Holiday Programme, under the personal supervision of T-O-N-Y P-A-S-T-O-R.
EVERY ACT A GEM. EVERY ARTIST A SUCCESS.
Orchestra Chairs and Private Boxes can be secured by letter or telegram, and engaged six days in advance. [39-1t

PARK THEATRE.
EVERY EVENING.
After careful preparation, the collaborated melodrama
CRUCIBLE.
Act First—Ingredients.
Act Second—Fusing.
Act Third—White heat.
Act Fourth—Metal.
New scenery by Matt Morgan, George Heinnemann, Chas. Henry. Characters by a carefully selected company, including Miss Minnie Doyle, Miss Annie Edmondson, Miss Annie Wakeman, Marie Louise, Miss Constance Leigh, Miss Ivy E. Rodamma, Messrs. John Dillon, Cyril Searle, T. J. Hind, J. C. Padgett, M. C. Daly, W. J. Ferguson, Vining Bowers, W. Scallon, C. T. Parsloe, J. G. Franklin, F. Langley, C. Clarence, G. W. Murray, J. W. Brutone, C. Rosene, H. B. Cutler, H. Gwynnette, J. G. Parker, G. R. Holmes, W. Peters, M. Wilton, J. A. Wilks, H. Montrose, A. Oakey Hall.
MATINEE SATURDAY. 39-1t

BOWERY THEATRE.
MR. J. W. MEATH......Manager
MONDAY, DEC. 20, engagement of MR. E. T. STETSON
in a new and original sensational drama, founded on the events of the Revolution, entitled
1776, OR VALLEY FORGE,
with new and beautiful scenery by Mr. D. B. Hughes. Mechanical effects by Mr. Henry Drew.
Revival of the favorite farce
DUMB BELLE. 39-1t

UNION-SQUARE THEATRE,
BROADWAY AND 14TH ST.
SHERIDAN SHOOK......Proprietor
A. M. PALMER......Manager
AN UNDOUBTED TRIUMPH.
EVERY NIGHT,
ROSE MICHEL,
illustrated with the
MOST ELABORATE AND BEAUTIFUL SCENERY
ever set upon a stage, and with a cast of
UNEXAMPLED STRENGTH.
SATURDAY, DEC. 25,
SIXTH MATINEE OF ROSE MICHEL.
Seats secured two weeks in advance. 39-1t

HOOLEY'S THEATRE
BROOKLYN.
R. M. HOOLEY......Manager
The new Temple of amusement is open for the FALL and WINTER SEASON with
HOOLEY'S MINSTRELS,
The largest and best selected Combination in America.
NOTICE.—First-class SPECIALTY ARTISTS wanted at all times. W. H. SMITH Business Manager. 35-13t

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To clubs of four or more, a deduction of 20 cents is made upon each yearly subscription.

ADVERTISING under the head of Amusements, 15 cents per line for each insertion.

Miscellaneous and Sporting advertisements, 20 cents per line for each insertion.

Notices from other papers incorporated in news department, 30 cents per line.

Advertisements to be paid for at the time of insertion, and liberal discount made when paid for three months or longer in advance.

FRANK QUEEN, Editor and Proprietor,
CLIPPER BUILDING, Centre and Leonard streets, N. Y.

AMUSEMENTS.

MT. CLEMENS OPERA-HOUSE, Mount Clemens, Mich. Just completed. Situated on principal street. Seating capacity, 1,000. Population of town, 3,000. Twenty miles from Detroit on Grand Trunk R. R. For further information, terms, etc., apply to
G. W. ROBERTSON, Sec.
39-1t

WANTED, for VAN WORMER'S VARIETY SHOW, to travel by teams, Variety performers in all branches of the profession, both male and female.
SALARY MUST BE LOW, TO SUIT THE TIMES.
Address GEORGE VAN WORMER,
39-1t* Fonda, N. Y.

FOR SALE, a first-class Dissolving Views Apparatus. Come and see, or address T. F. PALME, Goff's Falls, N. H. 39-1t*

HARRY C. DEITZ, send me your address immediately.
39-1t* J. M. HILLYAR, Mansfield, Ohio.

NEVADA HOTEL, 148 AND 150 WABASH AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.
TWO BLOCKS FROM McVICKER'S ADELPHI AND MUSEUM. $2 PER DAY. Special rates to the theatrical profession. 31-13t*

NOTICE TO TRAVELING TROUPES.
A nice hall known as the Mendelssohn Hall has just been finished at Owensboro, Ky. Capacity, 500. Dress-circle, Parquet and Gallery. Population of city, 10,000. Address
38-3t E. G. BUCKNER.

WANTED A FIRST-CLASS Magic Lantern. Address, with full particulars, W. F. TOLLE, Inter-ocean Hotel, Springfield, Ill. 38-2t*

C. A. H. HATCH, GENERAL BUSINESS AGENT CLARA WILDMAN'S NEW YORK COMEDY THEATRE.
P. O. Address, care NEW YORK CLIPPER. 38-3t

MAGIC MANUFACTORY. THE finest and best apparatus; also Juggling apparatus, Punch-and-Judy figures, ventriloquial figures, etc. Send 15cts. for illustrated catalogue, or stamp for price list. THOS. W. YOST, 28 N. 9th st., Philadelphia, Pa. 33-13t*

JOS. P. CLARK. HEAVIES OR JUVENILES, EMMA WHITTLE, JUVENILES OR SOUBRETTES,
Having closed their engagement at the Opera-house, Rochester, N. Y., can be secured for long or short engagements. 21 South St. Paul st., Rochester, N. Y. 38-2t*

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.
I have been called to Europe by Mr. Dion Boucicault. During my absence, commencing Dec. 11, 1875, I leave a sub-agent,
MR. J. P. CADDAGAN,
at my present residence, Tremont House, 665 Broadway, New York. All letters addressed to me as agent for Dion Boucicault will be opened by him and attended to as if I were present; all others will be forwarded to me. Mr. Caddagan is authorized to contract with managers and others for the right of Mr. Boucicault's plays, and receive all moneys, he being the only party authorized to sign my name as receipt for same. Respectfully,
H. J. SARGENT,
38-2t* General Agent for Dion Boucicault.

HANDSOMELY FURNISHED ROOMS, with or without board, 48 East 10th st., six doors west of Broadway, at reasonable prices. 38-2t*

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.
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Open the year around. Wanted at all times, FIRST-CLASS TALENT. None others need apply. Money sure. Pay in coin, and lengthy engagements, one to six months, given to ARTISTS—we pay none others. Wanted, good song-and-dance men and general performers; six good-looking ladies with good wardrobe, to dance clog, jig, song-and-dance, sing serio-comic, play in farces, and as general biz. Would like to hear from Georgey May, Annie Cavanal, and Mary Plin. Johnny Pierce, Stage-manager; P. H. Seamon, Acting and Business Manager. Address P. H. SEAMON, as above. 38-2t

BARTON OPERA-HOUSE, SYRACUSE, N. Y.,
TO RENT BY THE NIGHT OR SEASON at very low price.
Elevated seats, Opera-chairs, Dress circle, Private Boxes, full set of scenery, well lighted and heated, Dressing-rooms and everything in good repair.
Population, fifty-five thousand, and no permanent theatre in the city. Apply to
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LA FOND, FEMALE IMPERSONATOR AND SPECIALTY ARTIST. Managers address
38-2t* LA FOND, care of CLIPPER office.

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Without exception the finest hall in the city for balls, sociables, concerts, lectures and dramatic entertainments, having all the first-class conveniences, well lighted, stage spacious and supplied with new scenery. Auditorium 42x100 feet.
SEATING CAPACITY 1,000.
Will be rented on favorable terms to first-class applicants.
37-7t*eow L. B. ALLYN Janitor

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OPEN ALL THE YEAR ROUND.
The manager has the pleasure to announce to THE PROFESSION
that he has just completed extensive repairs, and that the OPERA-HOUSE IS NOW FIRST-CLASS
in every respect. Size, 145x30 feet; stage, 29x30 feet; scenery complete; fine dressing-rooms; grand piano in orchestra; seating capacity, 1,000; hall and stage lighted by gas; population, 5,000.
TO ALL FIRST-CLASS TROUPES OR LECTURERS THIS FIRST-CLASS OPERA-HOUSE CAN BE RENTED
by the night or on sharing terms.
33-13t* Address O. W. FLETCHER, Manager.

GRIMALDI ADAMS
AS CLOWN
IN THE GRAND TRICK PANTOMIME.
JOSH HART'S EAGLE THEATRE. 39-1t*

ANGELLO HALL,
JACKSON, MISS.
Legislature meets Jan. 4, and the city will be full of theatre-going people for two months. First-class scenery, gas, etc.; seats 600. Best show-town in Mississippi.
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ALSO FOUR-HORSE RIDER AND SONS,
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DAY, WEEK OR MONTH
FOR FIRST-CLASS
MINSTREL TROUPES OR COMBINATIONS
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FIRST-CLASS IN PERFORMANCE,
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TO MANAGERS OF THEATRES AND MEMBERS OF THE DRAMATIC PROFESSION.

For a valuable consideration I have this day conveyed to JOHN E. OWENS the sole right to play, or permit to be played, for his own benefit and profit, my two plays, entitled DOT, OR THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH, and GRIMALDI (sometimes entitled VIOLET, OR THE LIFE OF AN ACTRESS), for the period of ten years from date, it being understood that all former permissions granted by me, or in my name through my agents, for the representation of said plays are and shall continue revoked and annulled, unless renewed by the said JOHN E. OWENS.
DION BOUCICAULT,
per SIMMONDS & WALL,
his duly authorized Agents.
NEW YORK, Oct. 18, 1875.
In conformity with above, all applications for permission to produce the Plays above referred to should be addressed
JOHN E. OWENS,
39-1t Post-office, Towsontown, Md.

NEMESIS,
OR
SUNSHINE AND SHADOW,
BY FRED MARSDEN.
Managers and stars are hereby notified that I have purchased Miss Helen Temple's interest in the above play, and warn all persons against its production without my permission. FRED MARSDEN,
39-1t* Lotos Club, N. Y.

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GREENBURG, PA.
First-class companies can arrange for good sharing terms or rent upon application to W. S. NALY, Prop.
Population 6,000.
WANTED—Attraction for Dec. 24, 25, 30, 31. Jan. 1, and three nights commencing first Monday in Feb. 37-4t

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ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI,
the finest and most complete theatre in the State, with a seating capacity of 1,500—located in the heart of the city, which has a population of 35,000—is offered for rent during the season of first-class traveling combinations, by the night or week, at reasonable rates or on sharing terms. Address JULIUS CRONE, Agent, St. Joseph, Mo. 39-13t

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THE ACTING DRAMA.
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	M.	F.
26 The Original, Interlude, 1	6	1
27 The Sentinel, Musical Burletta, 1	4	2
28 The Tiger at Large, Burletta, 1	4	3
29 Why Did You Die? Petite Comedy, 1	3	3
30 Sayings and Doings, Farce, 1	4	3
31 Twin Brothers, Farce, 1	5	3
32 Ask No Questions, Burletta, 2	3	3
33 Cure for Coquettes, Comedy, 3	17	2
34 The Cabin Boy, Drama, 2	10	3
35 Who Stole the Spoons? Farce 1	3	4
36 Mrs. Sarah Gamp's Tea and Turn Out, Farce, 1	3	4
37 The Village Doctor, Drama, 2	4	3
38 Family Pride, Comedy, 5	8	4
39 Queen Mary, Drama, 5	44	7
40 The Three Grocers, Comedy, 2	5	5
41 The Race Ball, Farce, 1	6	1

THE AMATEUR STAGE.

35 A Woman Will be a Woman, 1	1	1
36 Caught in His Own Toils, 1	5	2
37 Cousin Florence, 2	4	7
38 Lucy's Love Lesson, 1	2	2
39 A Game of Billiards, Temp. Sketch, 1	2	2
40 The Wrong Bottle, Temp. Sketch, 1	2	0
41 A Lyrical Lover, Comedietta, 1	1	1
42 A Bad Temper, Comedy, 3	8	2

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A series of short Musical and Comic Sketches, playing from ten to thirty minutes. *.* The musical pieces have all the music necessary for performance.

	M.	F.
1 The Big Banana, Musical sketch, 1	1	1
2 Dot Mad Tog, Dutch Sketch, 1	3	2
3 A Gay Old Man Am I, Musical Monologue, 1	1	0
4 The Law Allows It, Musical Monologue, 1	1	0
5 Leedle Mistake, Dutch Sketch, 1	2	3
6 Spelling Match (The), Musical Sketch, 1	1	1
7 There's Millions In It, Musical Sketch, 1	2	1
8 Tootle, Tootle, Too, Musical Sketch, 1	1	1
9 Dot Matrimonial Adverdisement, Dutch Sketch 1	5	1
10 Mulcahy's Cat, Irish Sketch, 1	2	1
11 Dot Quied Lotgings, Dutch Sketch, 1	5	1
12 All in Der Family, Dutch Sketch, 1	4	2
13 Who Got the Pig? Irish Sketch, 1	4	1
14 A Mad Astronomer, Musical Sketch, 1	2	1
15 A Purty Sure Cure, Irish Sketch, 1	2	1
16 I Love Your Wife, Musical Sketch, 1	2	1
17 The Ould Man's Coat Tails, Irish Sketch, 1	3	1
18 The Decree of Divorce, Musical Sketch, 1	2	2
19 Let Those Laugh Who Win, Musical Sketch, 1	1	1
20 A Dark Noight's Business, Irish Sketch, 1	3	1

Either of the above will be sent by mail postpaid on receipt of price by
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A CARD TO MANAGERS.
THE MUSIC HALL IN ERIE, PA.,
being new and consequently unknown to many managers, I take pleasure in recommending it to parties about to visit Erie. It is one of the finest halls in the States, is heated by steam, lighted by electricity, and has a full set of elegant scenery by Stanfield. The terms are very low, to suit the times, and W. J. Sell the manager works up the business for each company.
CHARLES CALLENDER,
PROPRIETOR ORIGINAL
Georgia Minstrels.
N. B.—Erie has a population of 26 000. 39-1t*

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MERCHANTS' HOTEL,
SIXTH STREET,
BETWEEN MAIN AND MARKET,
LOUISVILLE, KY.
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SPECIAL RATES MADE TO THE PROFESSION.
RAY & EVANS, Proprietors.
A very good hotel, and landlord very obliging.
39-1t* G. V. RYDER, Fifth-av. Combination.

A rare chance for Professionals
HEYWOOD BROS.' COMBINATION,
Now traveling in the Northwest, are sweeping everything before them, meeting everywhere with crowded houses, while other companies around them are doing a starvation business. The management is now prepared to receive applications for next season from performers in all branches of the minstrel and variety business. Ladies and gentlemen that can play brass preferred. No fancy salaries promised, but paid in cash weekly. Performers with this combination get what is promised them, which amounts to more real money during their engagement than is received from any other combination now traveling. We don't want any of those performers that are willing to take one-quarter of what is promised. We want those that mean business to state their lowest figures (to be paid promptly every week), which must be moderate to secure engagements. Fares advanced, but deducted. None but reliable and temperate people wanted. Address JAMES HEYWOOD, Manager HEYWOOD BROS.' COMBINATION, Lawrence, Kas., Dec. 20, Topeka 21, Atchison 22, Leavenworth 23, St. Joseph, Mo., 24, Nebraska City 25, Council Bluffs, Ia., 26, Omaha, Neb., 28. 39-1t

BILLY HALLE,
The King of the Clogs,
IN NEW AND ORIGINAL STYLE OF
CLOG, JIG AND REEL DANCING.
P. S.—BAKER AND DOYLE, WHAT'S THE NEXT CASE?
Will be on hand soon.
39-1t* ALL LETTERS IN CARE OF CLIPPER.

THE NATIONAL CIRCUS AND MUSEUM
will take the road about the 1st of May, 1876, numbering 100 people and horses, under the management of O. P. Hart. Would like to hear from all people that traveled with the Keystone party in 1873. All privileges to let. Talent wanted. Salaries low, but sure. All communications should be addressed to O. P. HART,
39-1t* Hazleton, Pa.

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LACES, FRINGES, CORDS, BRAIDS, TASSELS, BROCADES, SPANGLES, STARS, SILK, WORSTED AND COTTON
TIGHTS, SHIRTS AND HOSIERY
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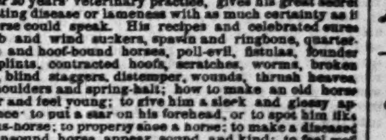
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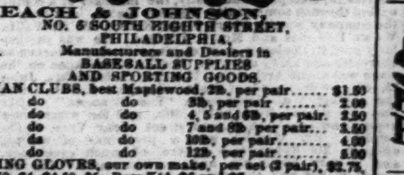

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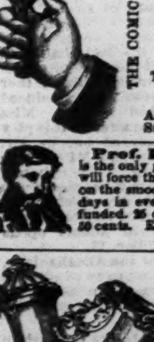

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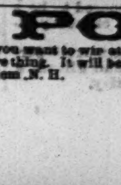

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